

# HUD Consolidated Plan and Strategies

## Five-Year Plan

FY 2024 – FY 2028

(July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2029)

## Annual Action Plan

FY 2024

(July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)

## City of Alliance, Ohio

# DRAFT

April, 2024

ALLIANCE *Ohio*

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## Executive Summary

### ES-05 Executive Summary – 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

#### 1. Introduction

The Consolidated Plan is a collaborative process whereby a community establishes a unified vision for community development actions. It offers a local jurisdiction the opportunity to shape the various housing and community development programs into effective, coordinated neighborhood and community development strategies. It also creates the opportunity for strategic planning and citizen participation to take place in a comprehensive context, and to reduce duplication of effort at the local level.

This Five-Year Consolidated Plan (FY 2024-2028) for the City of Alliance describes the needs of low- and moderate-income residents, persons with special needs, and homeless individuals and families. The Strategic Plan section outlines the goals, strategies, partners, and anticipated financial resources that will be available to implement projects using HUD Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds. A companion document, the Annual Action Plan, sets forth the specific projects that will be implemented during FY 2024. At the conclusion of each year, the City submits the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), describing the results in implementing projects.

HUD funding is intended to assist individuals and families that earn less than 80% of the Median Family Income (MFI) in a metropolitan area. HUD defines these categories based upon household income, adjusted for family size. Alliance is part of the Canton-Massillon Metropolitan Statistical Area (Stark and Carroll Counties). The 2023 income categories for a family of four are: Extremely Low Income (30% of MFI) - \$24,400 maximum; Very Low Income (50% of MFI) - \$40,700 maximum; and Low Income (80% of MFI, also known as Moderate Income for some program definitions) - \$65,100 maximum.

#### Stark County HOME Consortium

The City of Alliance is a member of the Stark County HOME Consortium (Consortium). The three Consortium members – the HUD entitlement jurisdictions of Alliance, Massillon, and the Stark County Urban County (balance of Stark County minus the City of Canton and the Village of Hills and Dales) – formed the HUD-approved Consortium in the early 1990's to leverage HOME program funds for their communities. By acting jointly, the funding amount received by the group is greater than the amount of money that could be obtained by the jurisdictions individually. The Consortium also uses the opportunity of having communities representing 80% of all county residents (302,000 people) working together to ensure broader planning and coordination on affordable housing issues within Stark County.

The FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Plan for the Stark County Urban County incorporates discussions pertaining to the Consortium as a whole.

## **2. Summary of the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan Needs Assessment Overview**

### **HOUSING NEEDS**

Alliance, Ohio, a community of 8,565 households and 21,670 persons (2016-2020 ACS), is located in northeast Stark County/southwest Mahoning County. Between 2009 and 2020, the City has lost about 2% of its population and 2% of its households. The median income, at about \$36,900, increased about 16% during the same time period. About 60% of all households have incomes that are 80% or less of (HUD) Area Median Family Income (HAMFI). The 2016-2020 ACS showed that while poverty citywide was about 25%, it varied by Census Tract.

The percentages of all households whose incomes were 80% or less of HAMFI varied depending on household type: large family households (76%, 485 households); elderly households containing at least one person 62 years or older (62%, 1,995 households); small family households (45%, 1,305 households); and households with one or more children six years of age or younger (36%, 885 households).

Housing affordability is one of the most prevalent housing problems in Alliance. Median rent, at \$524 and median housing value, at \$85,200, while more affordable when compared to the county medians, still pose a financial burden for households with lower incomes. Another measure of affordability is cost burden, defined as spending more than 30% of income for housing, or severe cost burden, defined as spending more than 50% of income for housing. Of the 1,355 households with a cost burden greater than 30%, 1,255 households (76% renters and 24% owners) had incomes that were 80% or less of HAMFI. Of the 1,104 households with a cost burden greater than 50%, 1,100 households (76% renters and 24% owners) had incomes that were 80% or less of HAMFI. Small family households, the elderly, and other households with incomes that were 80% or less of HAMFI experienced the greatest burden.

Poverty also continues to put low-income individuals and families with children at-risk of homelessness.

### **Needs of Homeless Persons and Families**

The following information is summarized from the Stark County HOME Consortium FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Plan. More detailed information is available in that document.

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (also referred to as HCCSC or the CoC) collects data on the extent and nature of homelessness in Stark County through providers at emergency shelters, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing facilities utilizing the Homeless Management

Information System. The CoC also conducts the annual Point-in-Time count, which is conducted in accordance with HUD standards. The annual Point-in-Time count (January 2023) estimated that in Stark County about 300 persons experience homelessness on any given night; about 1,200 persons experience homelessness each year; and about 1,100 persons – both individuals and families – lose their housing and become homeless each year. The homeless include chronically homeless individuals and families, children, and veterans. Almost two-thirds of homeless persons are White, and slightly more than one-third are Black or African American. About 20% of homeless persons are unsheltered.

In Stark County, the network of public, private, and non-profit agencies that comprise the CoC work in concert to meet the needs of homeless persons, actively promoting an approach that focuses on preventing and ending homelessness and rapidly returning people who have become homeless to housing. Particular emphasis is placed on assisting chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth. The network includes providers of housing and supportive services for the homeless, as well as governmental departments and area non-profit agencies that provide services and link persons to mainstream benefits, helping the homeless to find, and retain, housing.

The City of Alliance does not directly receive HUD Emergency Solutions Grant funds to assist in implementing these strategies, however residents of any community countywide, including Alliance, can utilize the CoC's services.

### **Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs**

HUD has defined a number of special needs categories of persons within the low- and moderate-income population: elderly (age 62 and older); frail elderly; persons with mental, physical, and/or developmental disabilities; persons with alcohol or other drug addiction; persons with HIV/AIDS and their families; and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Persons in all these categories live in Consortium jurisdictions and have housing and supportive service needs.

A network of providers delivers housing and supportive service in Stark County to meet the needs of special needs populations.

Detailed information is available in the Stark County HOME Consortium FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Plan.

### **HOUSING MARKET**

More than 80% of all housing units in Alliance were built before 1980, with almost 30% of units built 1950-1979. The 2016-2020 ACS data showed that there were 9,500 housing units in Alliance, with about 90% occupied and 10% vacant. Of the occupied housing units, 45% were owner-occupied, while 55% were renter-occupied. Owner and renter occupancy varied by Census Tract.

About 70% of all units (6,735 units) in Alliance were single-family (detached or attached). An additional 12% of all units (1,120 units) were in buildings with two to four units. Only 5% of all units (520 units) were in structures with 20 or more units. The number of buildings with five or more units varied by Census Tract.

The number of bedrooms in housing units showed considerable variation by tenure. Larger units were more prevalent among owners (3,865): 77% of units had 3 or more bedrooms and 22% of units had 2 bedrooms. Conversely, of renter-occupied units (4,705), 41% had 3 or more bedrooms, 3% had 2 bedrooms, 21% had 1 bedroom, and 1% had zero bedrooms. The percent of units with 3 or more bedrooms, regardless of tenure, varied by Census Tract.

In terms of affordability, a limited number of units are affordable to low income renter households, based on HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI): 9% at 30% HAMFI, about 34% at 50% HAMFI, and about 57% at 80% HAMFI. The situation is even more serious for owner households: (no data at 30% HAMFI), about 17% at 50% HAMFI, about 37% at 80% HAMFI, and 46% at 100% HAMFI.

### **Cost of Housing**

When compared to housing costs in other parts of the country, the overall housing market in Stark County and Massillon has remained relatively affordable for the last several decades. During the Great Recession, rents remained stagnant and home values fluctuated substantially. While median home sale prices stabilized and have been increasing in Alliance and properties are beginning to sell more quickly, the recovery of the housing market remains gradual. No significant change is anticipated in the overall affordability of the housing market relative to home values or rent levels.

### **Housing Condition**

About 82% of the housing units in Alliance (7,010) were built in 1979 or earlier, meaning cyclical maintenance is an ongoing need. About 1% - 2% of the housing units experienced the situation of overcrowding, lack of complete kitchen facilities, or lack of complete plumbing facilities.

Lead based-paint (LBP) hazard is an ongoing issue due to the quantity of pre-1980 housing stock. In addition, 3% of all occupied housing units (180 units) built before 1980 included one or more children age six or under. While lead remediation has occurred in a limited number of units, childbirth and/or the movement of households to unremediated units creates new situations of LBP hazards for small children.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

### Goals and Programs

The City of Alliance has identified six goals through which programs will be implemented during the next five years:

**Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing:** focus on owner-occupied housing and implement projects to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with activities such as housing rehabilitation.

**Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods:** improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with projects such as improvements to rights-of-way, water and/or sewer lines, and/or public facilities; building code enforcement; and demolition of abandoned, blighted buildings.

**Provide Needed Public Services:** implement public service activities that maintain and improve neighborhood and household stability, such as - but not limited to - programs related to children, youth, and senior citizens, as well as health and employment. The City will also provide fair housing services for landlords and tenants.

**Increase Economic Opportunities:** provide public infrastructure improvements that aid economic development; assist for-profit commercial or industrial firms with rehabilitation and/or new construction activities designed to create or retain jobs; provide code enforcement and eliminate substandard or blighted building conditions; implement downtown revitalization projects.

**Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness:** assist Alliance residents (individuals and families) experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness by funding activities and/or projects that will support the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.

**Planning and Administration:** administer the CDBG program, including overall management, coordination, reporting, and record-keeping requirements.

### 3. Evaluation of past performance

The City of Alliance has used its federal entitlement funds to productively respond to the community needs of residents, businesses, and other community stakeholders. In addition, the City has developed relationships with community-based organizations, which are essential in addressing neighborhood needs and strengthening the community as a whole.

The City of Alliance will continue to program its Community Development Block Grant and HOME funds for activities that significantly address neighborhood and community issues. For example, housing

rehabilitation work eliminates significant health and safety deficiencies; neighborhood level needs are addressed with infrastructure improvements, public facilities upgrades, building code enforcement, and demolition of abandoned, blighted buildings; economic development efforts create or retain jobs; and public service activities focus on maintaining and improving household stability.

#### **4. Summary of citizen participation process and consultation process**

The City of Alliance utilizes its Citizen Participation Plan, which outlines the procedures and processes to solicit citizen input in the development and reporting of HUD-funded activities.

During the development of the FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, the City of Alliance utilized notices in a newspaper of general circulation, public meetings, and internet outreach to solicit public comment. During the 30-day public comment period, a hard copy of the document was available in City Hall and at a public library. An electronic copy was available on the City's website.

The City of Alliance's Community Planning & Development Committee reviewed public service funding proposals from sub-recipient applicants and discussed proposed CDBG-funded projects and allocations. The Committee discussed and approved its recommendations in a public meeting, which were forwarded to Alliance City Council. The City Council discussed the FY 2024 CDBG allocations and the FY 2024-2028 Five-Year at regularly scheduled public meetings.

For more specific details about the citizen participation process, please refer to section **MA-15 Citizen Participation**.

The City of Alliance is active throughout the year in monitoring its subrecipients and consulting with nonprofit organizations and public agencies to gain input and feedback. For more specific details about the consultation process, please refer to section **MA-10 Consultation**.

Regarding HOME program funding, the City of Alliance participated in the planning and development of the FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan for the Stark County HOME Consortium, prepared by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC). More information on the citizen participation and consultation process is available in the SCRPC document.

#### **5. Summary of public comments**

To be completed after the end of the 30-day public comment period.

#### **6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them**

To be completed after the end of the 30-day public comment period.

# The Process

## PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.200(b)

### 1. Describe agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	ALLIANCE	Department of Planning and Development

Table 1– Responsible Agencies

### Narrative

This document discusses the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds received directly from HUD by the City of Alliance. This document is also part of a submission to HUD by the Stark Housing Consortium, representing the three jurisdictions of Alliance, Massillon, and the Stark County Urban County for funds through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).

These three jurisdictions formed a consortium to receive HOME funds jointly from HUD. By creating the Consortium, the total amount of HOME funds received by the group is greater than the amount of HOME funds that could be obtained by the individual jurisdictions. Cumulatively, that decision has brought to Stark County millions of dollars for local housing programs. Actions taken as the Stark Housing Consortium do not affect allocations of CDBG funds or other federal funds to the individual members.

In addition to receiving HOME funds, the Consortium leverages the fact that communities throughout Stark County work together on the Consolidated Plan process, which is an opportunity to ensure broader planning and coordination on affordable housing issues within the county. The following CDBG entitlement community is not a member of the Consortium and files Consolidated Plan documents directly with HUD: Canton.

The Consolidated Plan approach is the means to meet the submission requirements for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs:

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).** These funds are used for a variety of community development, neighborhood revitalization, or economic development programs, with the intent of assisting low- and moderate-income people and improving deteriorated areas.

- **HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).** These funds are used specifically for housing related projects, such as housing rehabilitation or first-time homebuyer assistance. The Stark Housing Consortium receives the funds directly from HUD on behalf of its three partner jurisdictions, and Stark County is the lead administrative entity.

### **Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information**

For information regarding the City of Alliance's Consolidated Plan, contact Jennifer Merriman, Deputy Director, Planning and Administration, (330) 829-2235.

**PR-10 Consultation - 91.100, 91.110, 91.200(b), 91.300(b), 91.215(I) and 91.315(I)**

**Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction’s activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I)).**

The types of providers and agencies listed in this question most often operate on a countywide basis.

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) provided information in its FY 2024-2028 Five-Year HUD Consolidated Plan concerning coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and government health, mental health, and service agencies in Stark County, which has the potential to involve residents of Alliance.

During the second half of 2023, SCRPC managed two online Needs Assessment surveys to a wide variety of agencies and organizations, including public and assisted housing providers, private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies, as well as political subdivision leaders in the county. Additionally, each of these stakeholders was invited to participate in one of the four public meetings. The general public was also able to participate in the surveys and public meetings.

The City of Alliance works to enhance the coordination between public and private housing and service agencies whenever possible.

Homeless needs are addressed through the HCCSC, which is comprised of public and private housing and social service agencies, including the City of Alliance. Through its CDBG allocation, the City of Alliance also provides funding to several social service agencies and organizations to partially fund key aspects of the Continuum of Care operations and programs.

Further coordination is the Stark County HOME Consortium, a partnership of the Cities of Alliance and Massillon, plus the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) on behalf of Stark County. The Consortium coordinates the expenditure of HUD HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds within Stark County.

In addition, the City of Alliance has a contractual relationship with SCRPC for two programs. First, SCRPC staff administers the Alliance owner-occupied housing rehabilitation programs funded through the CDBG and HOME programs. Second, the City of Alliance provides funds on an annual basis for SCRPC to administer the Alliance Fair Housing program.

**Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness**

The City of Alliance participates in the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC), which coordinates activities and operates on a countywide basis.

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) provided information in its FY 2024-2028 Five-Year HUD Consolidated Plan describing coordination among the Continuum of Care, housing providers, and health and service agencies to address the needs of homeless persons, including the chronically homeless, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth, as well as persons at risk of homelessness.

SCRPC conducted an online survey to the HCCSC and other homeless services-related agencies to gather input on program needs. During Consolidated Plan preparation, a public meeting was held as part of a HCCSC meeting. The draft Plan was made available to the CoC and its members for comments.

More locally within Alliance, coordination efforts are discussed in the Annual Action Plan, section AP-35, Projects.

**Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards and evaluate outcomes, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the administration of HMIS**

The City of Alliance is not a recipient of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding.

The only jurisdiction in Stark County that receives ESG funding is Canton. The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County assists Canton with the administration of its ESG funds.

**2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdictions consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities**

**Table 2– Agencies, groups, organizations who participated**

1	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Alliance Area Chamber of Commerce</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services-Employment Business and Civic Leaders
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance officials have policy and program discussions with this organization on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county businesses.
2	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Nonprofit organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Homelessness Strategy Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance staff and officials work with HCCSC members and Stark Housing Network (its management entity) on an ongoing basis to coordinate the needs of homeless and at-risk homeless county residents.

3	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark Area Regional Transit Authority</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Non-housing Community Development
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance officials have policy and program discussions with this organization on an ongoing basis to address the transportation needs of residents and businesses.
4	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Area Transportation Study</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-housing Community Development
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the transportation, infrastructure and transit needs of the community.
5	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Board of Developmental Disabilities</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.

6	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Department of Jobs and Family Services</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Services - Housing Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services - Victims Other government - County
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance officials and the Continuum of Care have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of community residents.
7	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Regional organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address foreclosure and property disposition issues in the community. The City and this agency jointly plan and implement projects that impact low- and moderate-income areas, including acquisition, sale, demolition, and rehabilitation of buildings.
8	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Mental Health &amp; Addiction Recovery</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Health Agency Other government - County

	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Non-Homeless Special Needs
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance officials, through Stark County and the Continuum of Care, have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of county residents.
9	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark County Regional Planning Commission</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Regional organization Planning organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Housing Need Assessment Lead-based Paint Strategy Public Housing Needs Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Economic Development Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis related to planning, community development, and neighborhood revitalization issues. As a U.S. Census Bureau affiliate, this agency can also provide data, data analysis, and customized products to the community. This agency is the lead jurisdiction for the Stark Housing Consortium.
10	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark Economic Development Board</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	Housing Services-Employment Regional organization Planning organization Business and Civic Leaders Nonprofit organization
	<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Economic Development Market Analysis
	<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance officials have policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of residents and businesses on issues such as economic development.
11	<b>Agency/Group/Organization</b>	<b>Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority</b>
	<b>Agency/Group/Organization Type</b>	PHA

<b>What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?</b>	Public Housing Needs
<b>How was the Agency/Group/Organization consulted and what are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?</b>	City of Alliance has policy and program discussions with this agency on an ongoing basis to address the needs of community residents.

**Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting**

All agency types were consulted.

**Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan**

<b>Name of Plan</b>	<b>Lead Organization</b>	<b>How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?</b>
Continuum of Care	Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County	The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County serves all communities in Stark County. The CoC coordinates a network of public, private, and non-profit agencies that facilitate and/or provide, either directly or indirectly, assisted housing, health services, and/or social services to persons in Stark County who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, unaccompanied youth, and persons with HIV. <a href="https://starkcountyhomeless.org">https://starkcountyhomeless.org</a>
Stark County Comprehensive Plan 2040	Stark County Regional Planning Commission	The comprehensive plan provides a broad range of data and recommendations. It is intended to provide a flexible framework within which local governments can work to address their own issues and work cooperatively on issues as well. Document topics include demographics, economy, land use, natural resources, housing, community, livability, transportation, infrastructure, future land use, and recommendations. <a href="https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/planning_(subdivision_and_zoning)/comprehensive_planning/#:~:text=The%20plan%20encourages%20the%20best,projects%20slated%20for%20the%20county.">https://rpc.starkcountyohio.gov/government/offices/regional_planning_commission/departments/planning_(subdivision_and_zoning)/comprehensive_planning/#:~:text=The%20plan%20encourages%20the%20best,projects%20slated%20for%20the%20county.</a>
Strengthening Stark	Stark Economic Development Board	The Stark Economic and Development Board (SEDB) represents the cities and townships in Stark County as an economic development advocate, focusing on business expansion and attraction efforts. SEDB efforts include business attraction, business financing, real estate development, zoning and regulatory compliance, funding for environmental remediation, private equity financing, and the administration of the Stark County Port Authority. <a href="https://www.starkcoohio.com/index.php?submenu=ourTeammates&amp;src=gendocs&amp;ref=strengtheningStark&amp;category=ourTeammates/&amp;link=strengtheningStark">https://www.starkcoohio.com/index.php?submenu=ourTeammates&amp;src=gendocs&amp;ref=strengtheningStark&amp;category=ourTeammates/&amp;link=strengtheningStark</a>
Vibrant NEO 2040	Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium Initiative	Funded by a HUD/USDOT/USEPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative grant, this twelve county regional project guided by 33 organizations developed a vision for the future of Northeast Ohio. The eight objectives include promoting investment in established communities, developing the regional economy with accessible employment opportunities, and enhancing the regional transportation network. <a href="http://vibrantneo.org">http://vibrantneo.org</a>

**Table 3– Other local / regional / federal planning efforts**

**Describe cooperation and coordination with other public entities, including the State and any adjacent units of general local government, in the implementation of the Consolidated Plan (91.215(I))**

Ongoing coordination takes place between Alliance, Massillon, and Stark County, the three jurisdictions that comprise the Stark Housing Consortium, which is the entity that receives HOME Investment Partnerships funding from HUD on behalf of the jurisdiction. Staffs communicate on a regular basis regarding community needs, planning, programs and expenditure of HOME funds. Coordination and communication with the City of Canton also takes place regularly on projects of mutual interest.

All four entities in Stark County that receive CDBG entitlement funding (Alliance, Canton, Massillon, and Stark County) have jointly participated in the recent completion of a coordinated Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice study (December 2018), to satisfy the requirements of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. This Act requires that any community receiving HUD funds affirmatively further fair housing. As a result, Alliance, Canton, Massillon, and Stark County have the responsibility to conduct their CDBG, HOME, and ESG programs in compliance with the federal Fair Housing Act. The responsibility of compliance with the federal Fair Housing Act extends to nonprofit organizations and other entities receiving federal funds through these four jurisdictions.

Communities receiving HUD funds are required to:

- Examine and attempt to alleviate housing discrimination within their jurisdiction;
- Promote fair housing choice for all persons;
- Provide opportunities for all persons to reside in any given housing development regardless of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin;
- Promote housing that is accessible to and usable by persons with disabilities; and
- Comply with the non-discrimination requirements of the Fair Housing Act.

These requirements can be achieved through the preparation of an Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice. The Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AI) is a review of the laws, regulations, and administrative policies, procedures, and practices affecting the location, availability, and accessibility of housing in a community, as well as an assessment of conditions, both public and private, affecting fair housing choice. The document is here:

[https://cms7files1.revize.com/starkcountyoh/Document\\_center/Regional%20Planning%20Commission/resources/AI\\_Final-Draft.pdf](https://cms7files1.revize.com/starkcountyoh/Document_center/Regional%20Planning%20Commission/resources/AI_Final-Draft.pdf)

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission staff administers the City of Alliance housing rehabilitation program, HOME program projects, and Fair Housing program.

The City of Alliance regularly participates in the Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD), a statewide association whose members include community and economic development professionals from political jurisdictions, nonprofit organizations, and consulting firms involved in the expenditure of HUD funds.

## **PR-15 Citizen Participation - 91.105, 91.115, 91.200(c) and 91.300(c)**

### **1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting**

The City of Alliance undertakes the following types of actions to encourage citizen involvement:

- Meetings, hearings and other public activities are scheduled at times and locations convenient to encourage attendance, such as weekdays. Public meetings are publicized in a newspaper of general circulation.
- Meetings are open to the public and agendas are distributed via e-mail, internet posting and hard copy postings.
- Meeting locations and office space housing City staff is an ADA-compliant environment.
- All meetings are open to the public and provide a forum for citizens to participate in matters related to the Alliance HUD programs, as well as provide staff an opportunity to review policy issues and obtain public feedback.
- Meeting notes summarizing the discussion items and actions taken are posted online and made available at subsequent meetings to keep interested parties informed.
- Reasonable and timely access is provided to information and records relating to the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and use of HUD assistance.
- The City has a Citizen Participation Plan, which outlines the procedures and processes used by the City to solicit citizen input in the development of the City of Alliance's Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and Annual Performance Reports.

For the public meetings and comment period, citizens were invited to provide comments via telephone, mail, email, or in person. During the 30-day comment period, copies of the Five-Year Plan and Annual Action Plan documents were available in public places (City Administration Building and the public library), and posted on the City's website.

At each public meeting, the Five-Year Plan was listed and discussed as a separate agenda item. The discussions included presentations of background information, data, and priorities, and time was allotted for audience questions. The meetings linked the Five-Year Plan and the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, providing continuity for discussing short-term and long-term timeframes. The process involved for the allocation of each annual entitlement grant is based on goals and strategies outlined in the 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

**Table 4** shows the public comment process undertaken by the City of Alliance in compliance with HUD requirements and in accordance with the Alliance Citizen Participation Plan.

In addition to the solicitation of public input, throughout the year the Department of Planning and Development provides technical assistance to all concerned individuals and organizations regarding the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Programs. Staff contact information is available on the City’s website. In turn, presentations and attendance at various public meetings by City staff and partner agencies results in feedback from the public and other community stakeholders regarding the implementation of HUD funded programs.

Alliance also participates in the planning and development of the Consolidated Plan for the Stark Housing Consortium related to funding received through the HOME Investment Partnerships program. The Consortium’s process is also governed by a Citizen Participation Plan.

The City of Alliance, Department of Planning and Development, as the lead administrative entity, is responsible for overseeing development of this Five-Year Plan, with assistance from PlaceMark Collaborative, LLC, Lakewood, Ohio.

### Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
1	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/ broad community	The City published a public notice in the Alliance Review, <b>March 4, 2024</b> , describing the proposed FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the proposed FY 2024 Annual Action Plan and inviting citizen review and comment.	Not applicable	Not applicable
2	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/ broad community	FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, <b>March 4, 2024</b> , City Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 504 E. Main Street, 3:30 p.m. The meeting included presentations of background information and data, along with discussions of programs and funding. Time was allotted for audience questions.	No comments received.	Not applicable
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/ broad community  CDBG sub-recipients	Community Planning & Development Committee, FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, review of CDBG Budget Proposals and award recommendations. <b>March 11, 2024</b> , City Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 504 E. Main Street, 3:30 p.m.	Not applicable	Not applicable

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons
4	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/ broad community	The City published a public notice in the Alliance Review, <b>April 10, 2024</b> , describing the proposed FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and the proposed FY 2024 Annual Action Plan. The public notice announced the start of the 30-day comment period, listed the locations at which the plans are available for public review, listed the public hearing date, and invited citizen review and comment.	Not applicable	Not applicable
5	Public Hearing	Non-targeted/ broad community	FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan and FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, <b>April 15, 2024</b> , City Administration Building, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 504 E. Main Street, 3:30 p.m. The Five-Year Consolidated Plan and Action Plan was listed and discussed as separate agenda items. The meeting included discussions of priorities and activities to be funded. Time was allotted for audience questions.	to be added	to be added

**Table 4– Citizen Participation Outreach**

# Needs Assessment

## NA-05 Overview

### Needs Assessment Overview

Located in northeast Stark County/southwest Mahoning County and encompassing an area of 8.96 square miles, Alliance, Ohio is a community of 21,670 persons, 8,565 households, and 9,515 housing units. An assessment of the needs of the residents of Alliance shows that low incomes, poverty, unemployment/underemployment, and the residual effects of the Great Recession, not to mention the Covid pandemic, have had a negative effect on housing stability for many of the City's residents.

According to the 2016-2020 American Community Survey and HUD mandated tables, Alliance lost about 2% of its population and 2% its households since 2009 (**NA-Table 1**). While total housing units decreased by 5% since 2009, only about 11% (945 units) were vacant by 2016-2020. Of all occupied housing units, 3,865 units (45%) were owner-occupied and 4,705 units (55%) were renter-occupied (**MA-Tables 31 and 32, Maps-Owner-and Renter-Occupied Housing**). The median income, at \$36,883, increased by 16% since 2009, while poverty citywide decreased from 27% in 2009 to 25% in 2016-2020, and varied by Census Tract (**NA-Table 5, 2010 Census, 2016-2020 ACS, Maps-Median Household Income and Poverty Rate**). Unemployment was 7.65% citywide, down from 13.08%, in 2011-15. In both time periods, unemployment varied by Census Tract (**MA-Table 40 and Map-Percent Unemployment**).

**Table NA-6** shows that 61% of all households have incomes that are 80% or less of the HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI), which is currently \$69,500 for the Canton-Massillon, OH MSA. The percentages of all households whose incomes were 80% or less of the HAMFI varied depending on household type and Census Tract (**Table NA-6, Maps-ELI, LI, and MI Households**). Of the 2,910 small family households, 45% (1,305 households) had incomes that were 80% or less. Of the 3,235 households containing at least one elderly person 62 years or older, 62% (1,995 households) had incomes that were 80% or less. Of the 640 large family households, 76% (485 households) had incomes that were 80% or less. Of the 1,174 households with one or more children six years or younger, 75% (885 households) had incomes that were 80% or less.

HUD considers cost burden (housing affordability), substandard housing condition, and overcrowding to be serious housing problems (**Maps-Households with Any of 4 Severe Housing Problems, ELI, LI, and MI Households**). At least to some degree, all of these housing issues occur in Alliance, with cost burden and housing condition being the two most prevalent housing problems, particularly among low-income households. Median rent, at \$524 and median housing value, at \$85,200, while more affordable when compared to the county medians, still pose a financial burden for households with lower incomes (**MA-Table 28**). **Maps-Median Home Value and Median Contract Rent** show that rents and housing values

vary by Census Tract. **Maps-Change in Median Contract Rent and At Risk of Homelessness From Increased Rent** show the effects of cost burden and housing affordability issues.

Cost burden (spending more than 30% of income for housing) and severe cost burden (spending more than 50% of income for housing) is illustrated in **Tables NA-7, NA-9, NA-10, and Maps-Cost Burden, ELI, LI, and MI Households with Severe Cost Burden**.

As shown, 2,378 households (1,815 renters and 563 owners) had a cost burden of >30% and 869 households (630 renters and 239 owners) had a cost burden of >50%. Of the households with a cost burden of >30%, all but 100 had incomes that were 80% or less of the HAMFI. Of the households with a cost burden of >50%, only 4 households had incomes that were 80% or less. Small family households, the elderly, and other households with incomes that were 80% or less of the HAMFI experienced the greatest cost burden (**Tables NA-9 and NA-10**). If transportation costs were taken into consideration, the effects of cost burden would be even more pronounced.

Substandard housing, where the unit lacked complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, was uncommon, affecting a total of 105 households, all of whom were renters and all of whom had incomes that were 0-80% of HAMFI (**NA-Table 7, Maps-ELI, LI, and MI Households with Substandard Housing**). While the Census definition does not capture the extent of repair needs, the age of housing can be an indicator of condition. As shown in **MA-Table 38**, 82% of the housing stock was built before 1980 and 51% was built before 1950. These homes are now at least 44 years old, requiring systems replacement and a significant rehabilitation investment. The year units were built in Alliance varies by Census Tract (**Maps-Percent Rental Housing Built Before 1949 and 1980**).

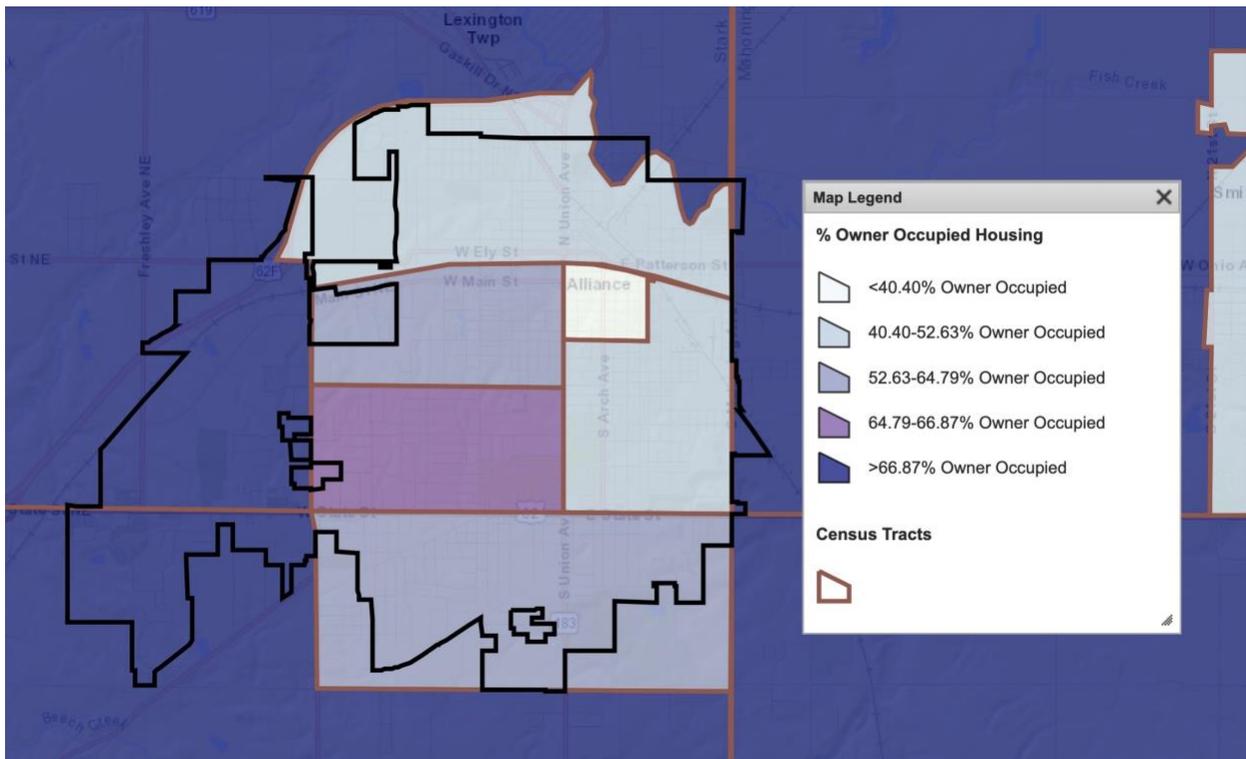
**Tables NA-7 and NA-11** show that very few households experienced overcrowding (1.01 -1.5 people per room), but of the 85 households that did, all were renters with incomes that were 80% or less of the HAMFI. There were 4 renter households and 10 owner households that experienced severe overcrowding (>1.51 people per room), all of which had incomes that were 80% or less of the HAMFI. Most households experiencing overcrowding were single-family households.

The only categories where a disproportionate need by a minority racial or ethnic group (in terms of housing problems) was found was 230 Black or African American households and 25 Asian households in the 0%-30% of AMI category, 165 Black or African American households and 15 American Indian/Alaska Native households in the 30%-50% of AMI category, and 80 Black or African American households and 10 Asian households in the 50%-80% of AMI category.

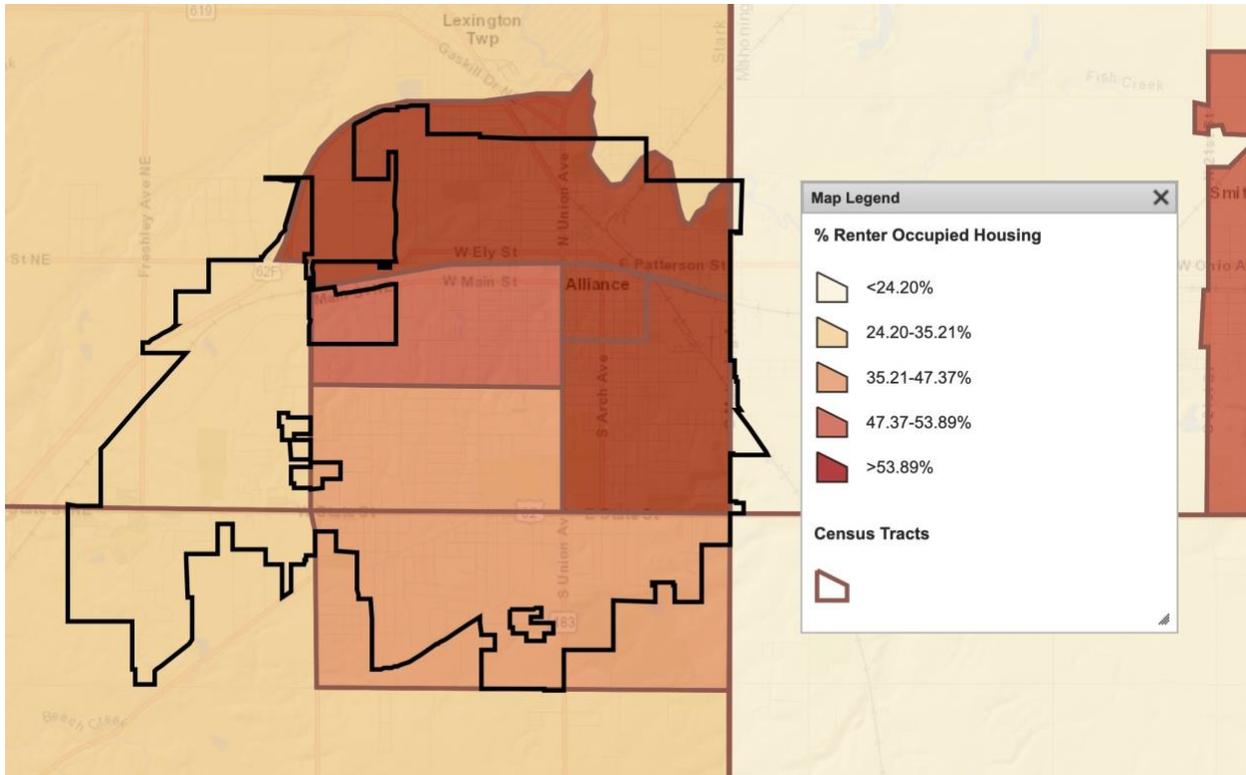
Extremely low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled living in Alliance, turn to the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA) for public housing. SMHA maintains seven separate semi-jurisdictional waiting lists, including Alliance, for public housing, as well as for Housing Choice vouchers. While the lists have consistently been composed of families with children, households with at least one disabled person, and elderly persons, many of whom are minorities, the agency has seen an increase in

the number of applicants with accessibility needs who have mobility, vision, and/or hearing disabilities. In March 2023, SMHA opened the Section 8 waitlist to the public for the first time since 2019, processing over 1,100 applications for new families. This overwhelming demand shows the need for additional affordable rental housing units, particularly for families with children.

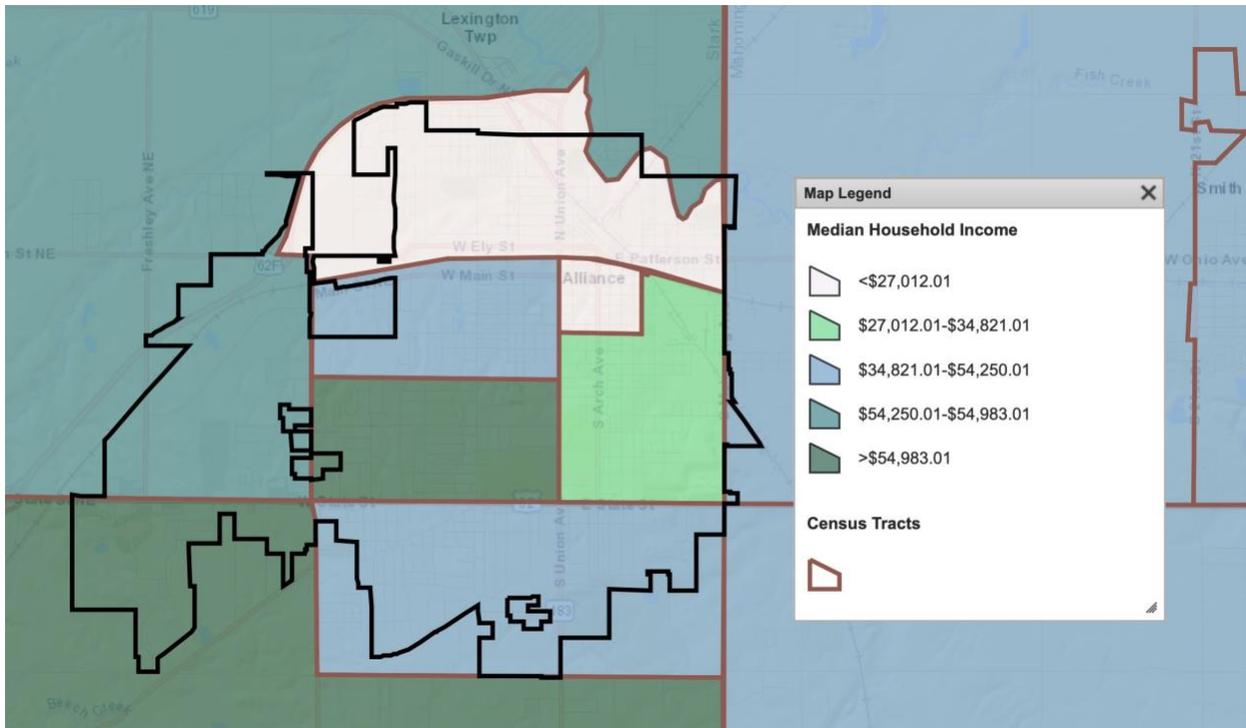
The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC or the CoC), which is managed by the Stark Housing Network Inc., an independent non-profit organization, develops supportive housing options and services for the County’s homeless population. Alliance, which provides representation on the CoC, will continue to work in concert with, and support, the organization’s priorities for homeless persons or those at-risk of homelessness.



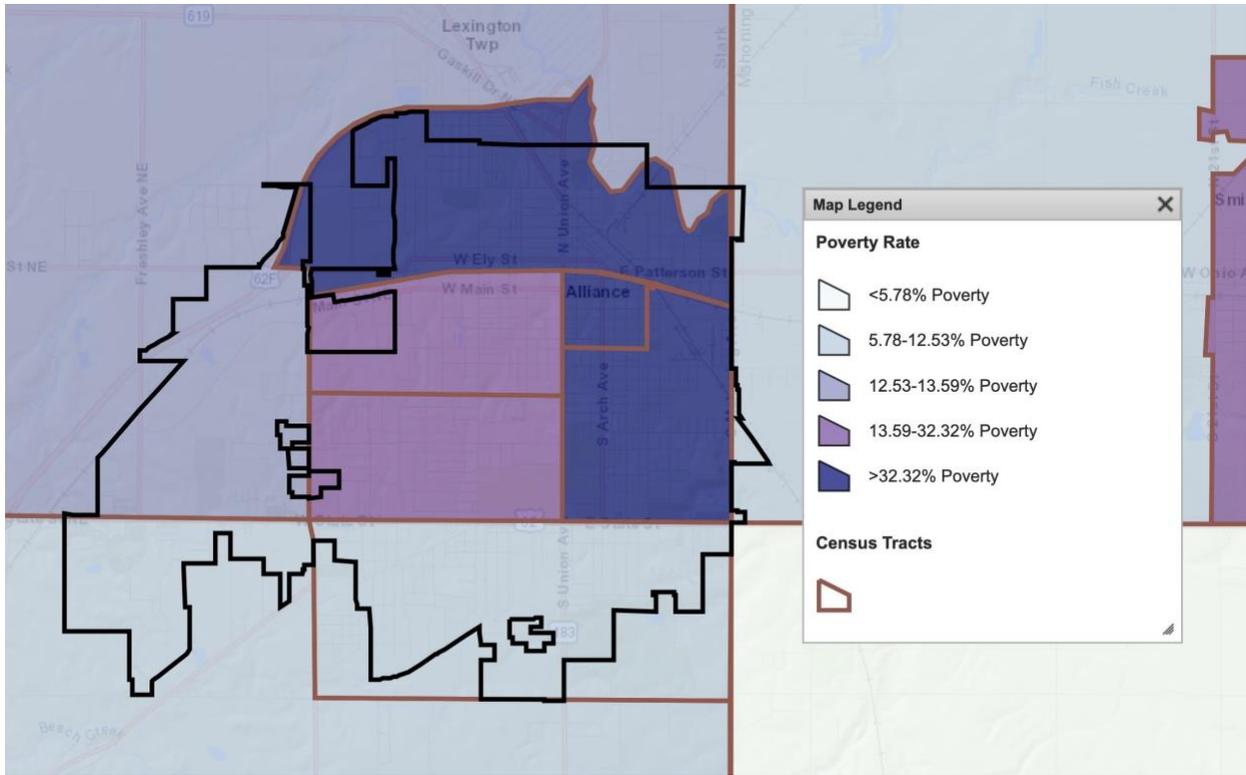
**Percent Owner-Occupied Housing**



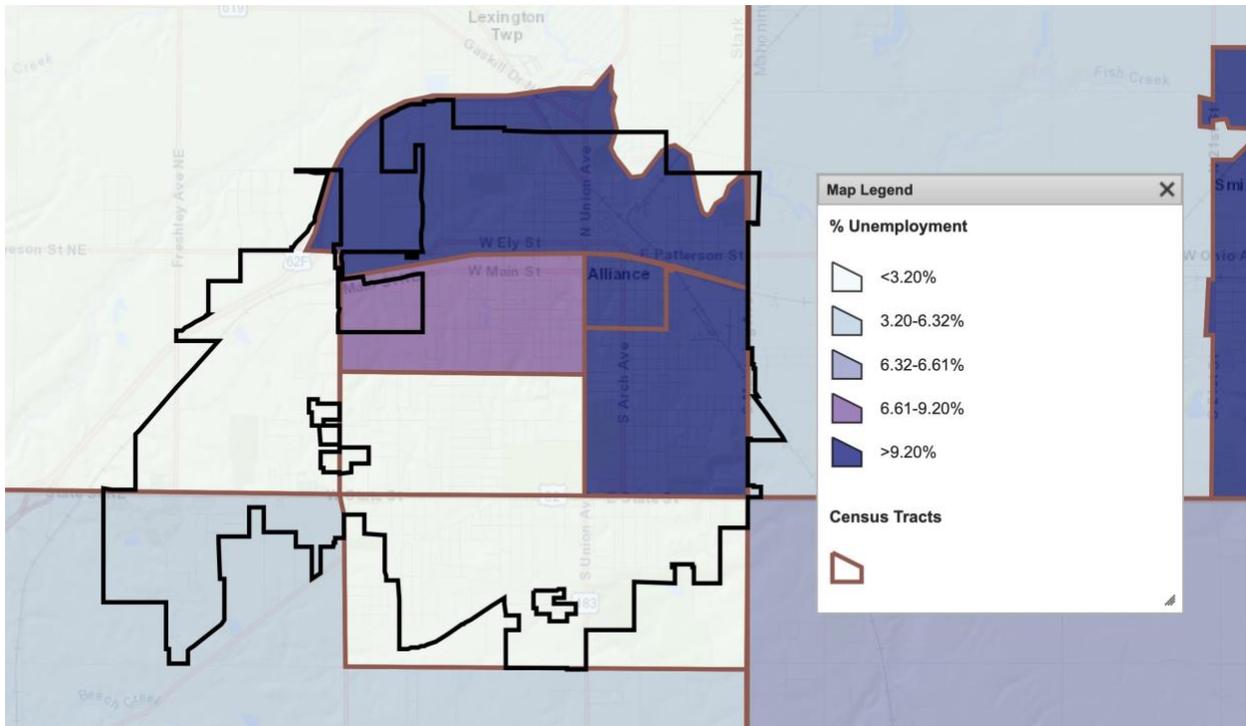
**Percent Renter-Occupied Housing**



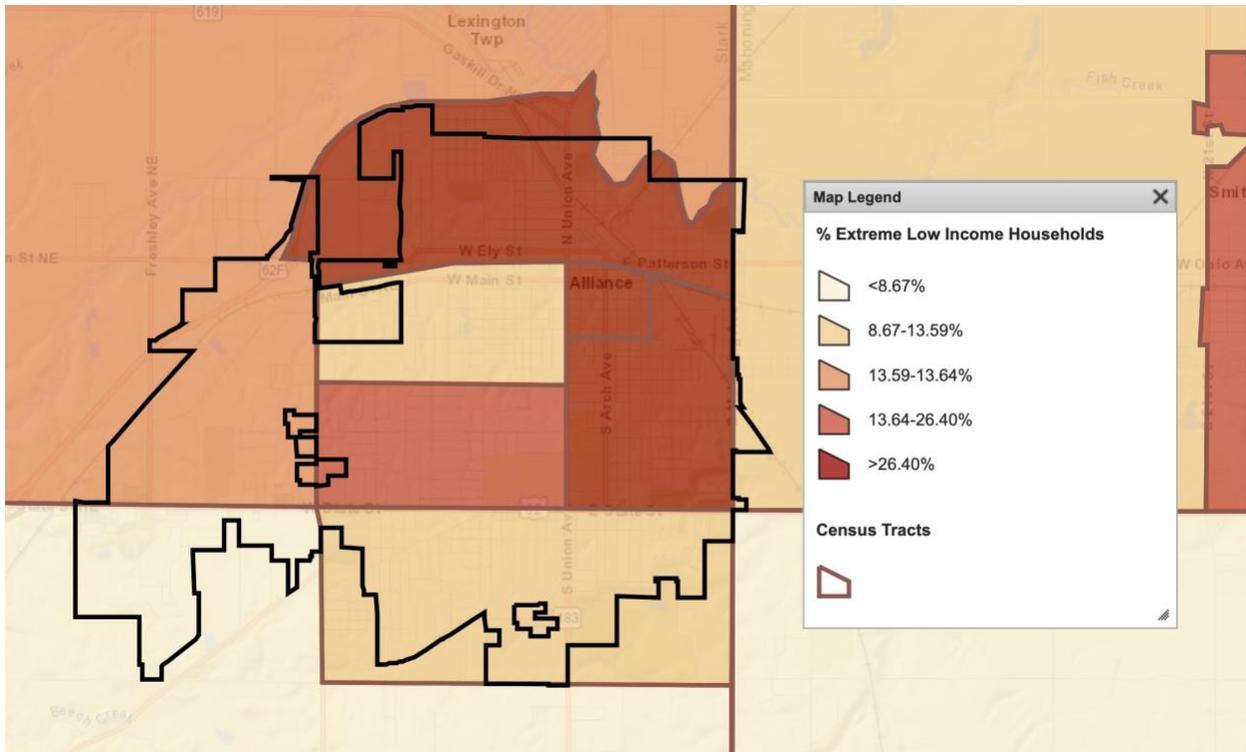
**Median Household Income**



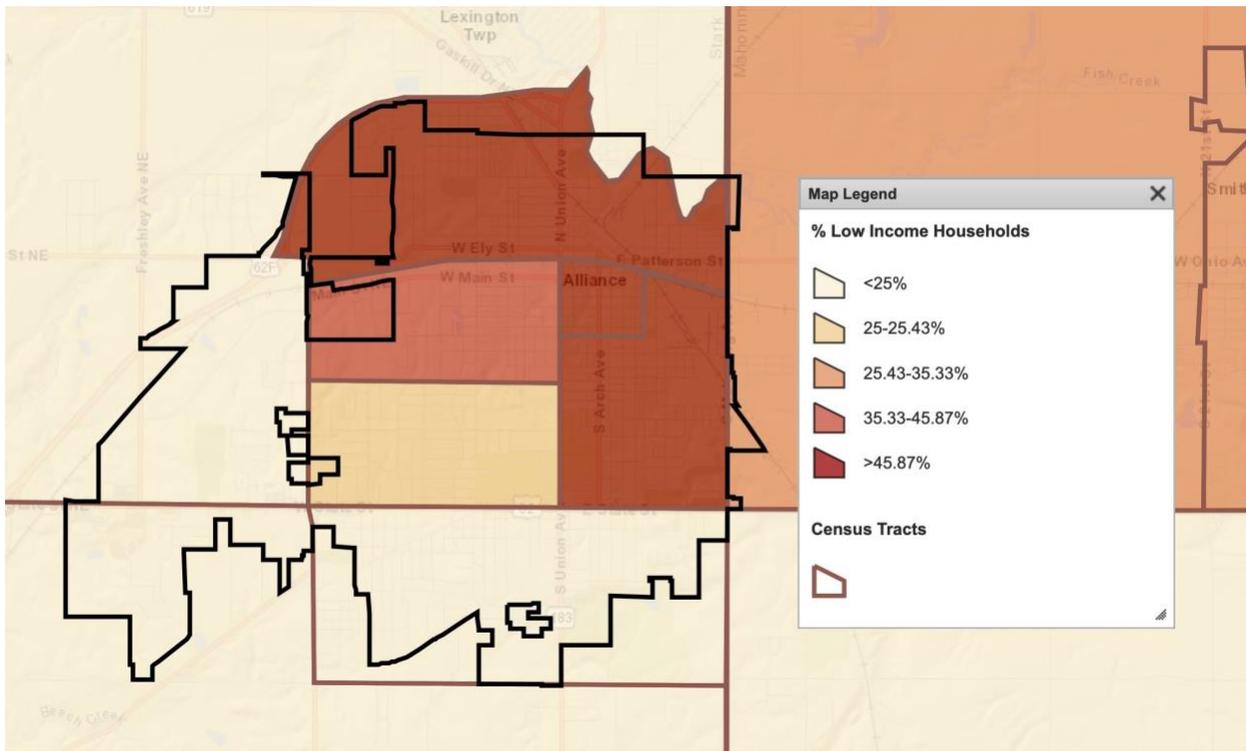
**Poverty Rate**



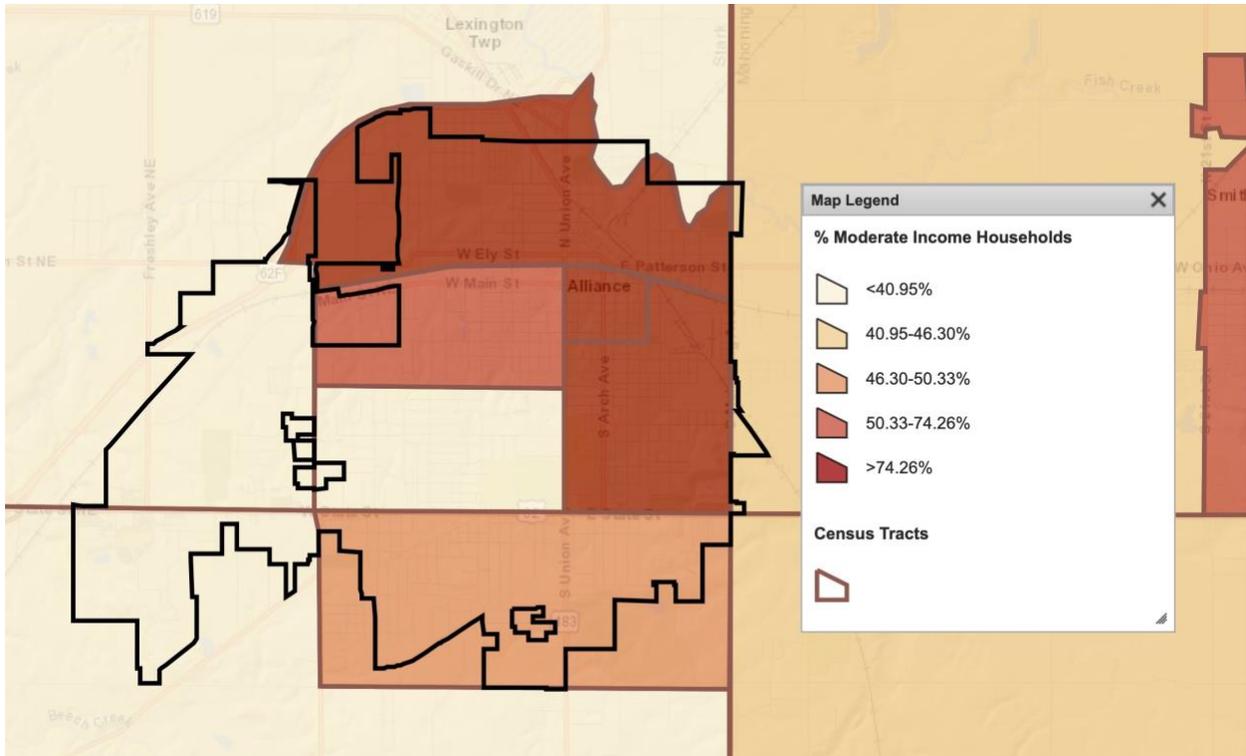
**Percent Unemployment**



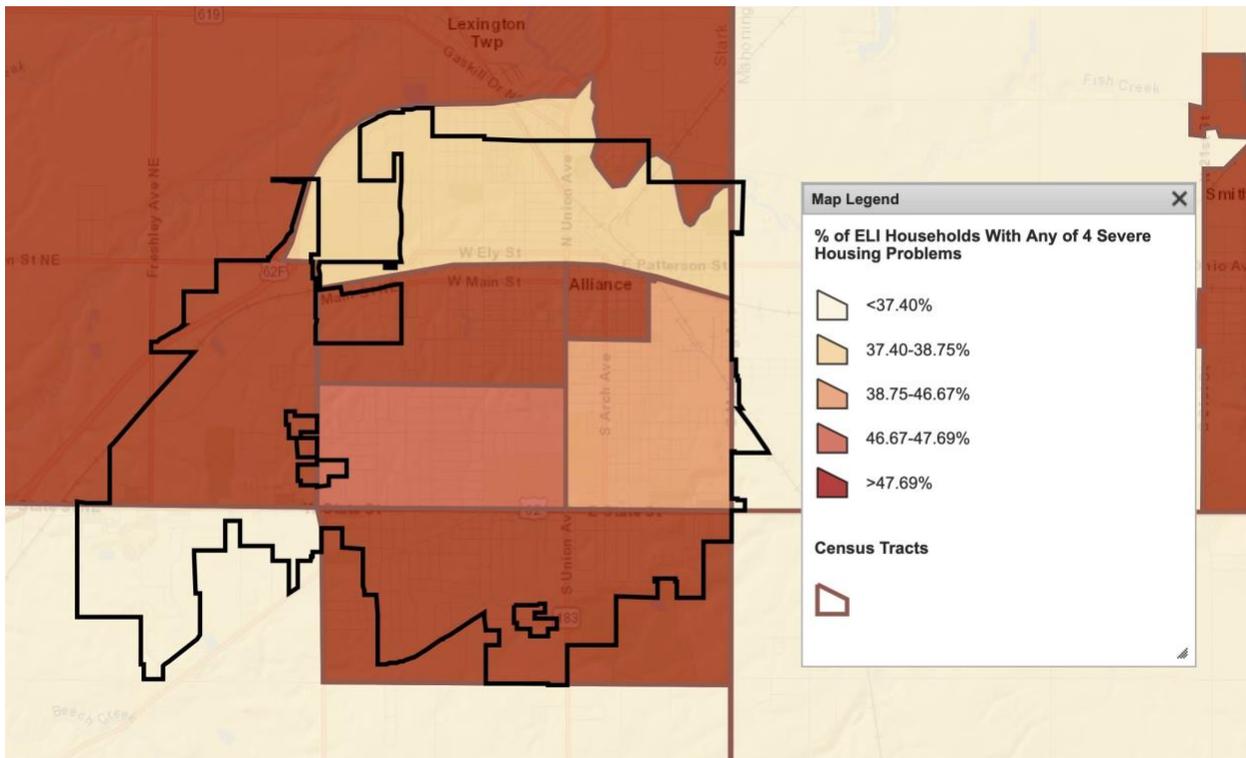
**Percent Extreme Low Income Households**



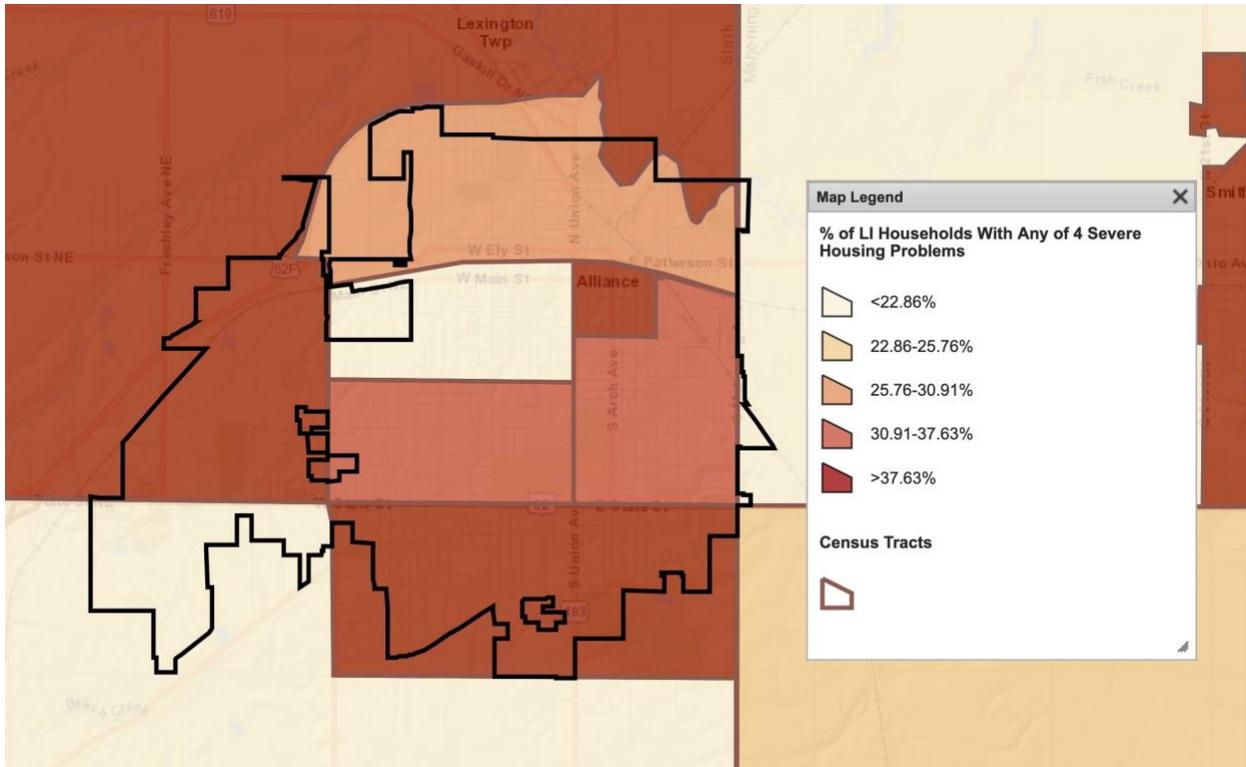
**Percent Low Income Households**



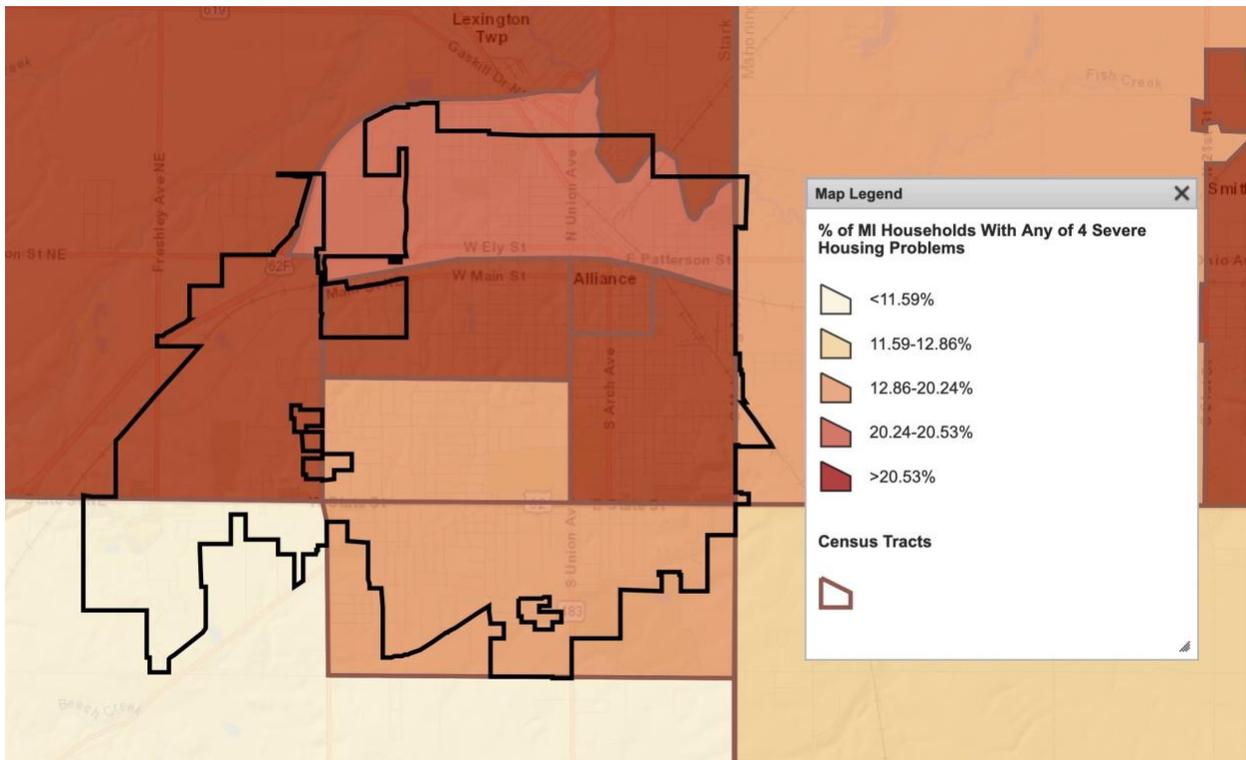
**Percent Moderate Income Households**



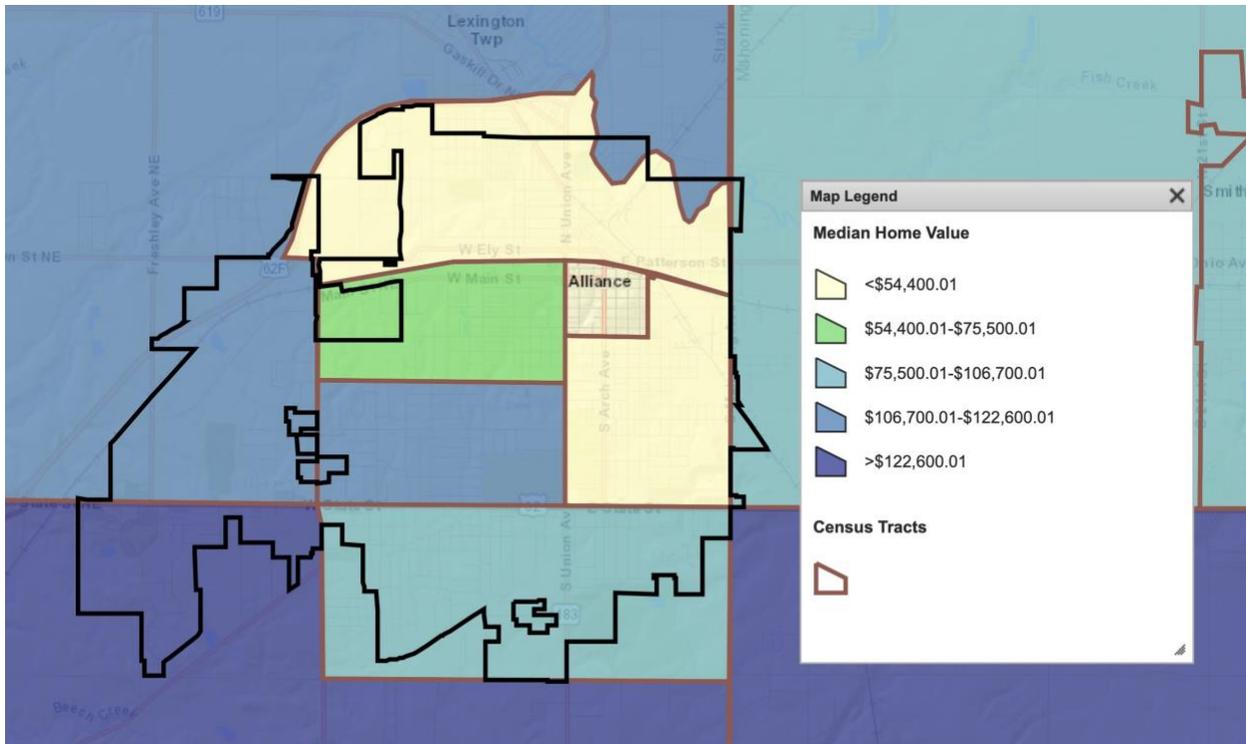
**Percent ELI Households with Any of 4 Severe Housing Problems**



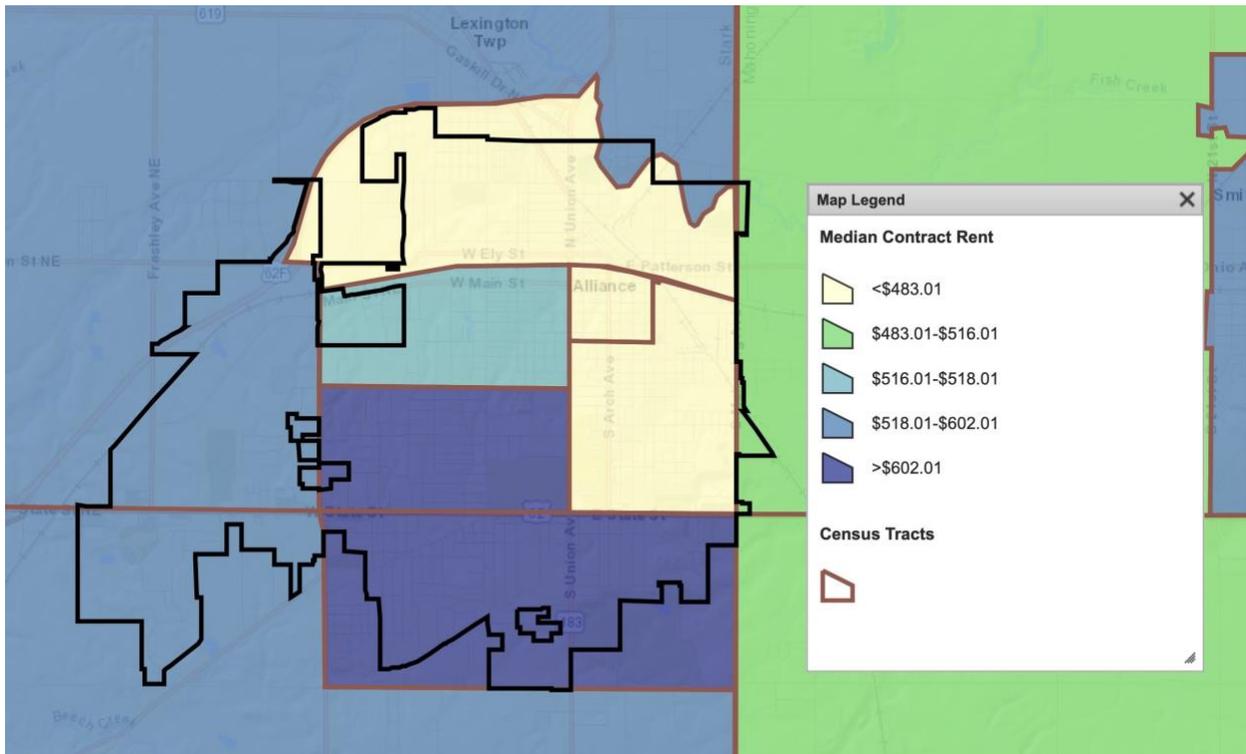
**Percent LI Households with Any of 4 Severe Housing Problems**



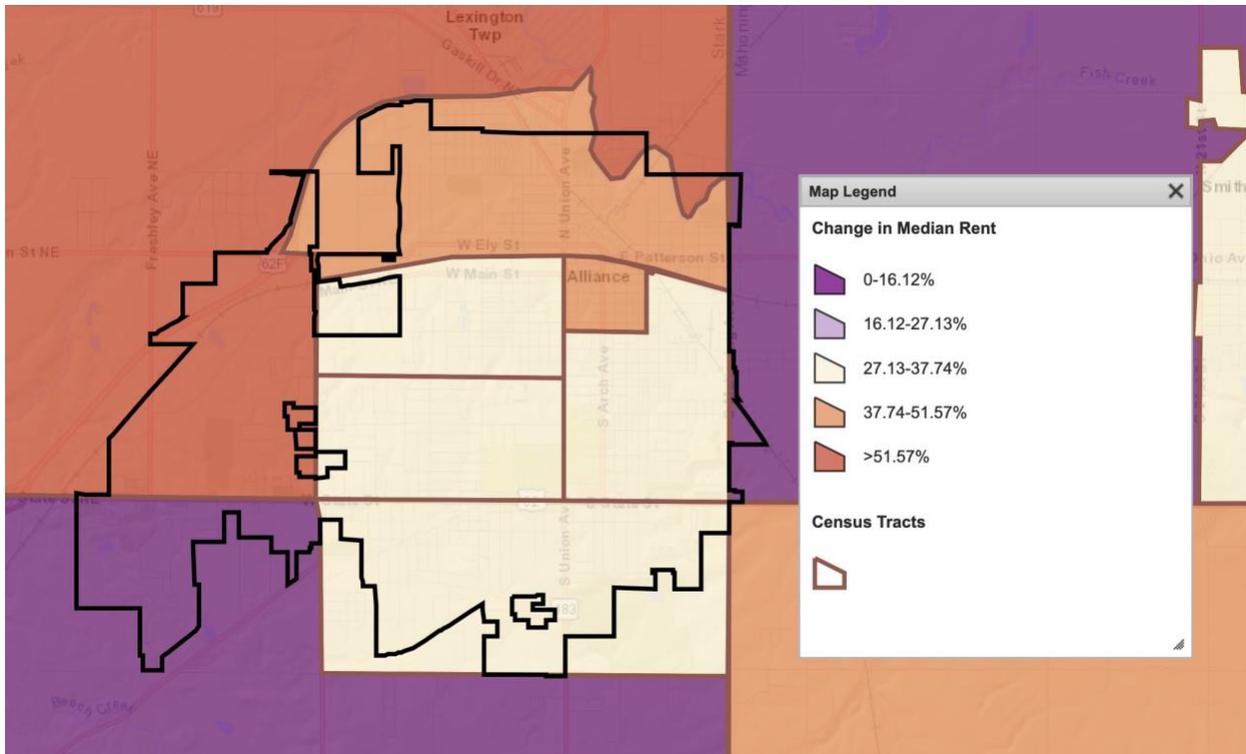
**Percent MI Households with Any of 4 Severe Housing Problems**



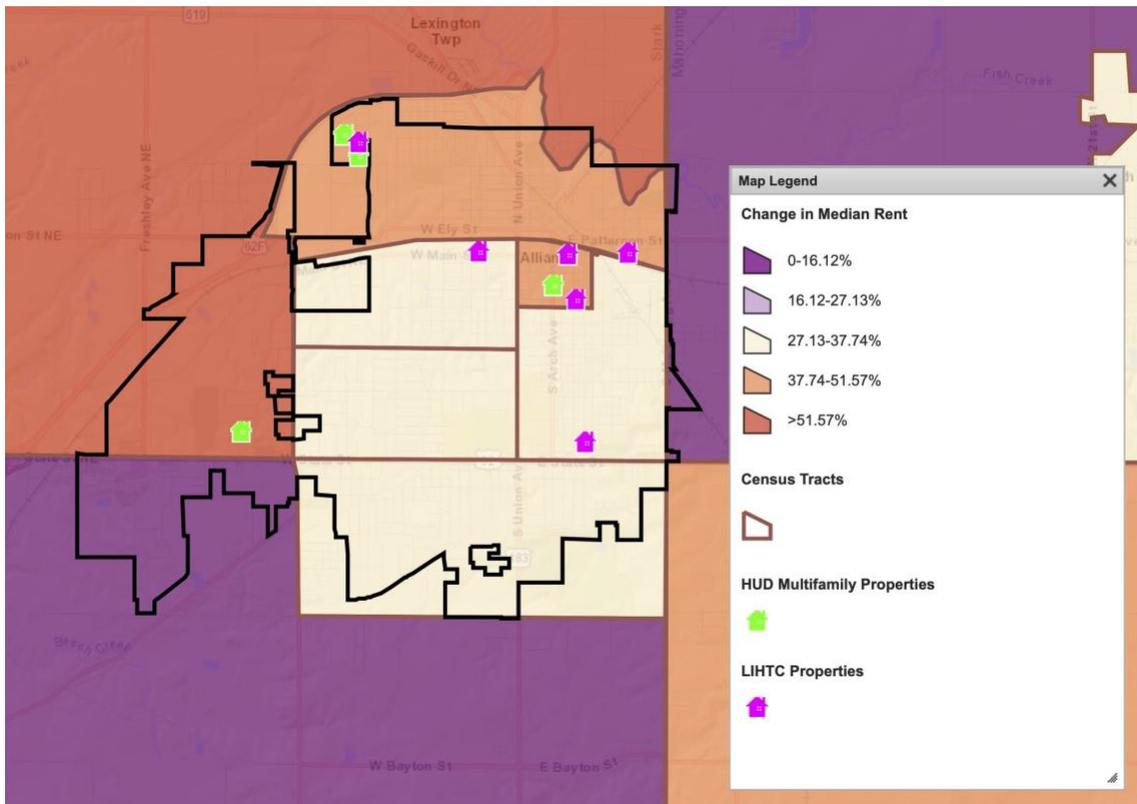
**Median Home Value**



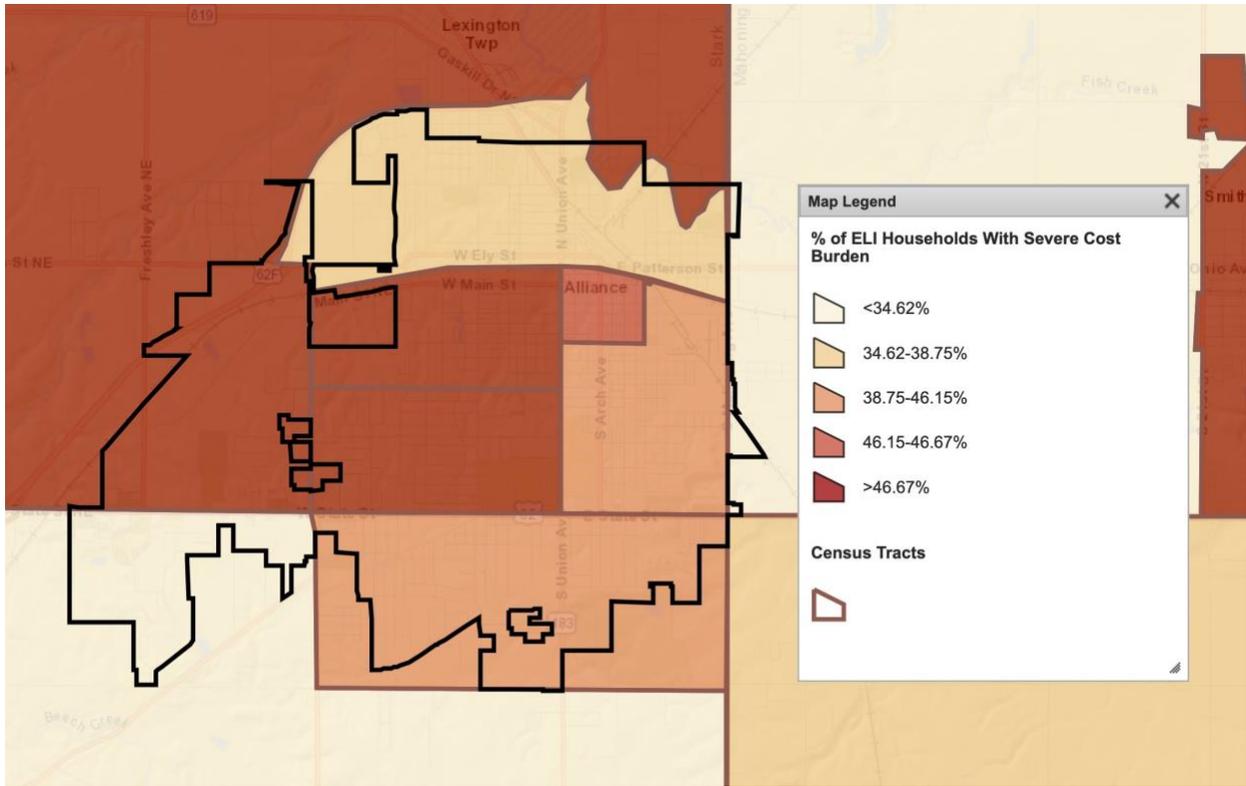
**Median Contract Rent**



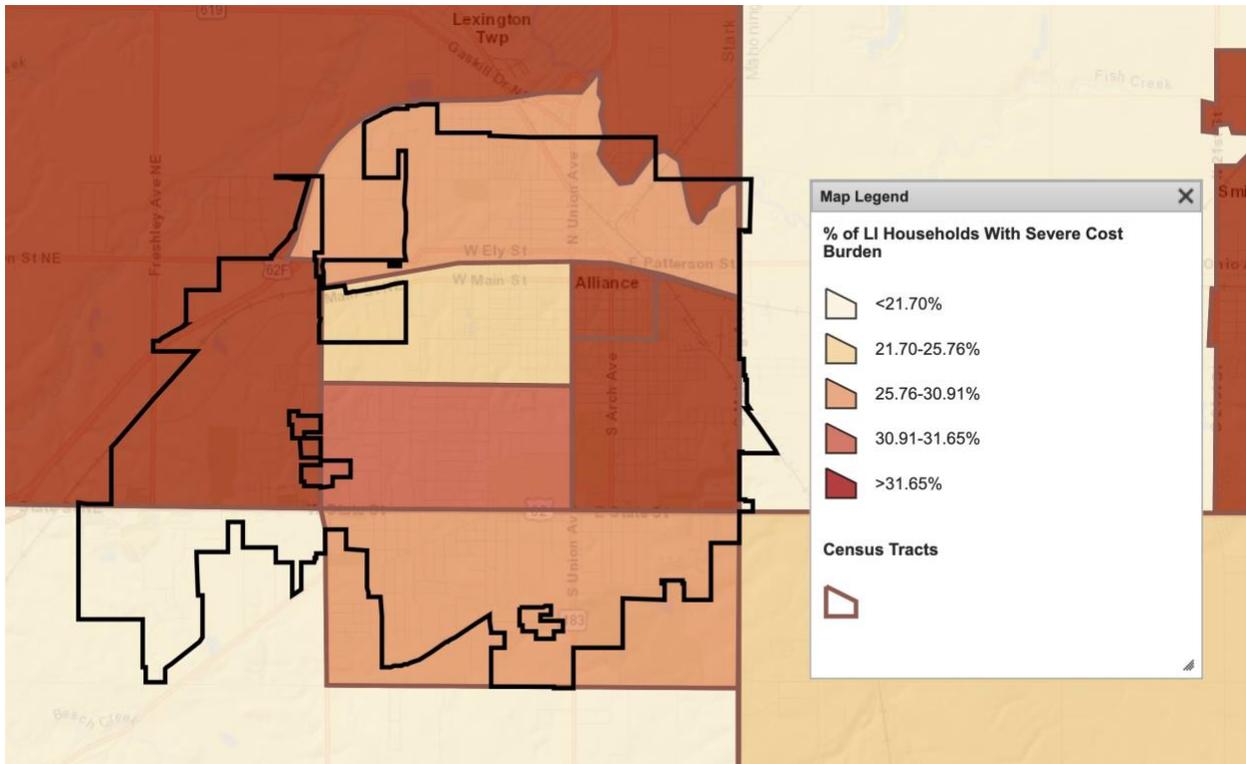
**Change in Median Rent**



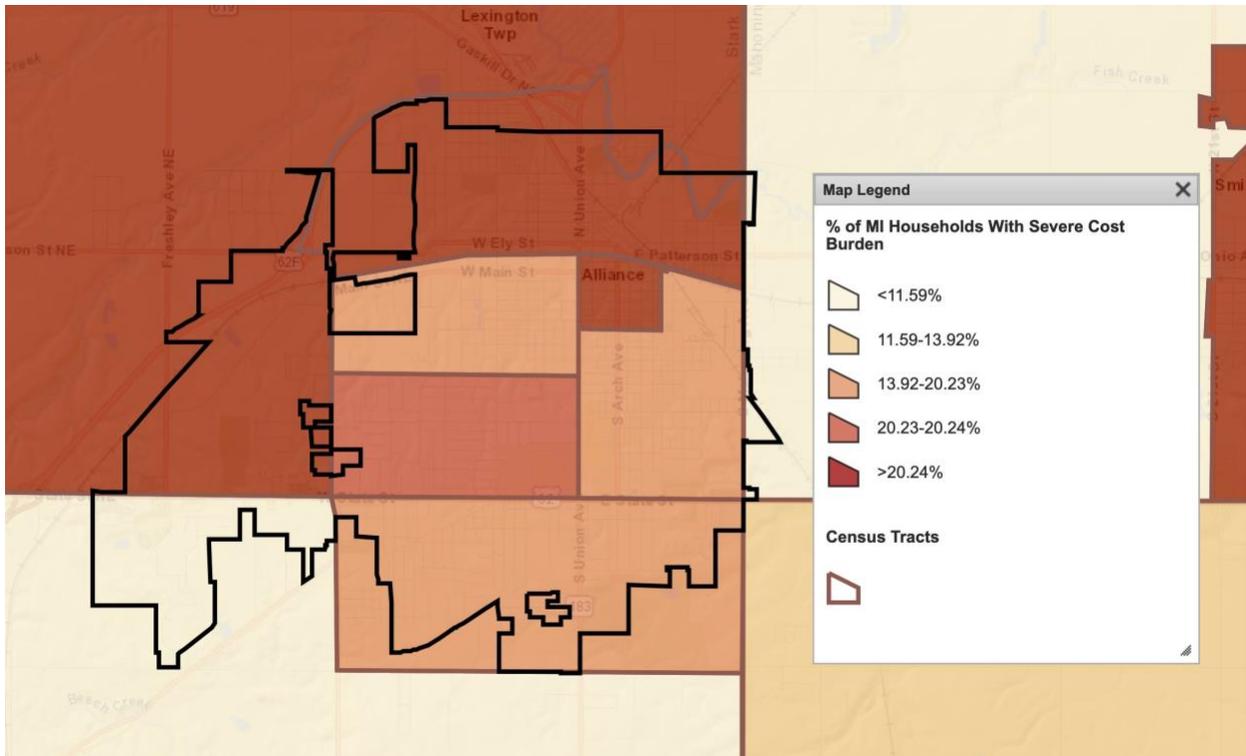
**Percent Risk of Homelessness from Increased Rent**



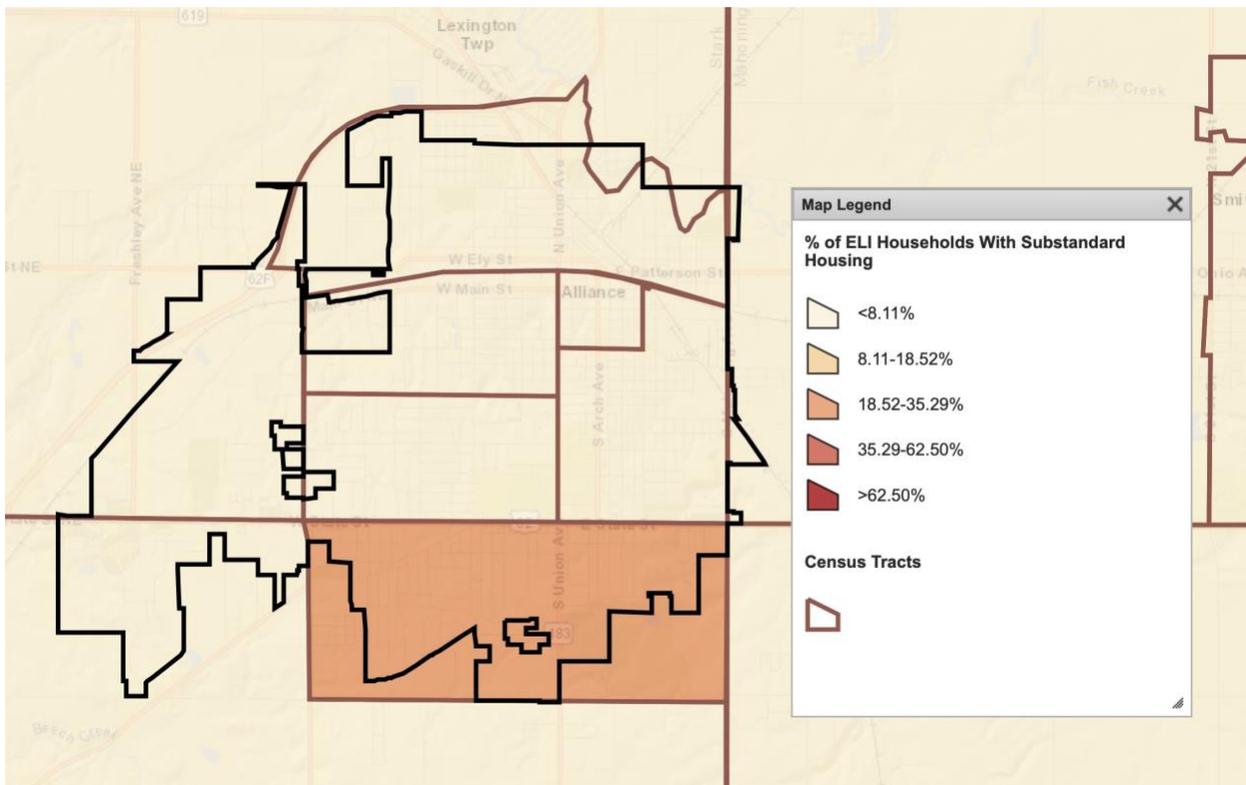
**Percent ELI Households with Severe Cost Burden**



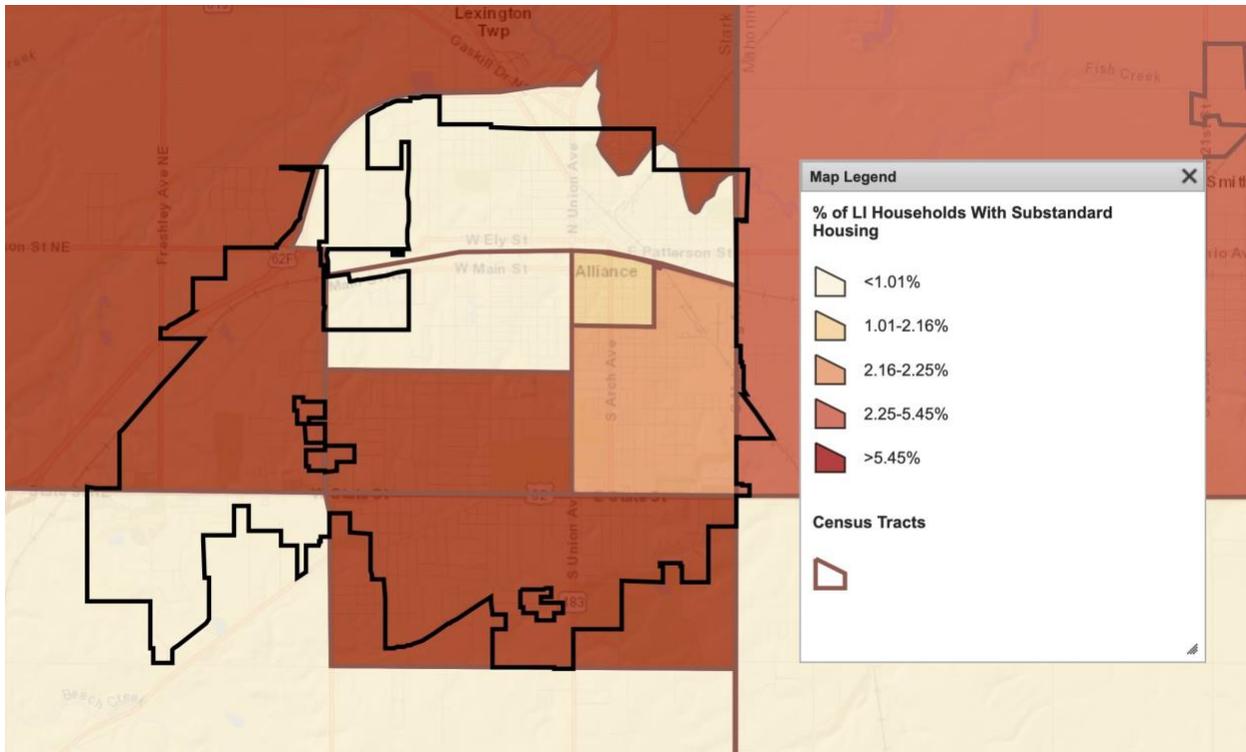
**Percent LI Households with Severe Cost Burden**



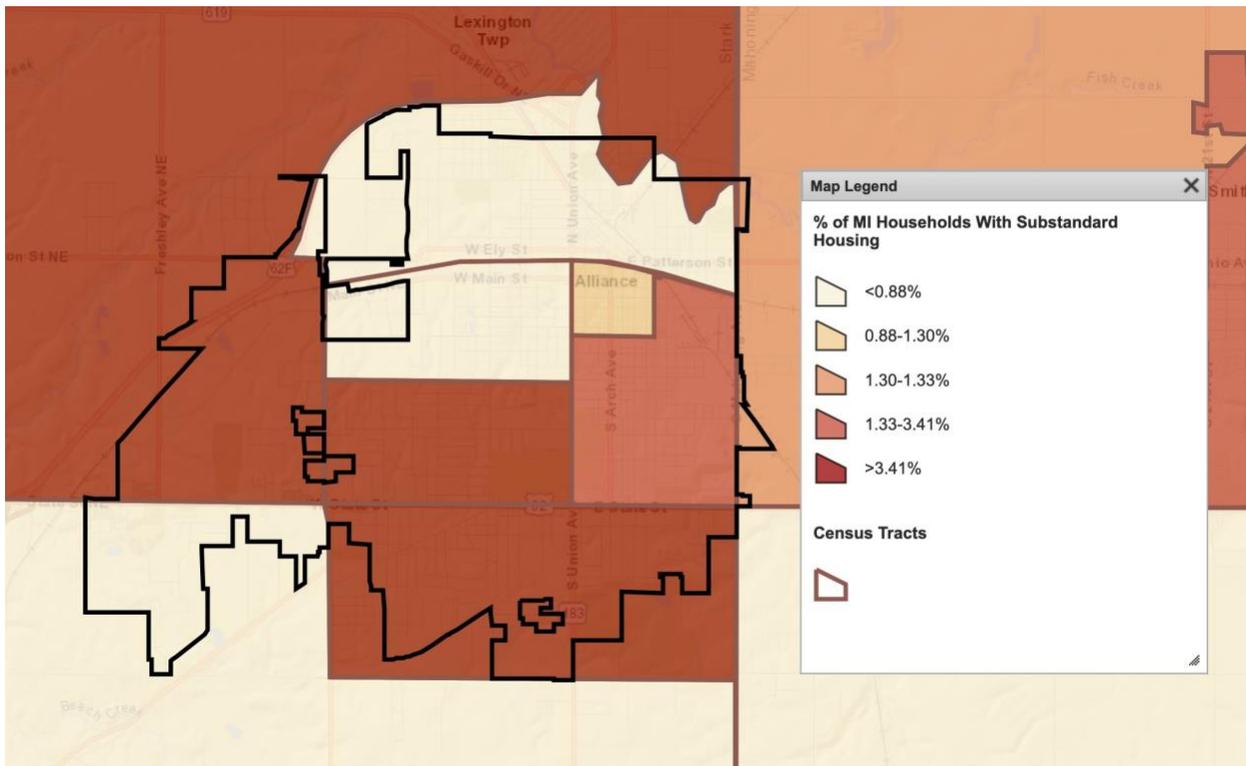
**Percent MI Households with Severe Cost Burden**



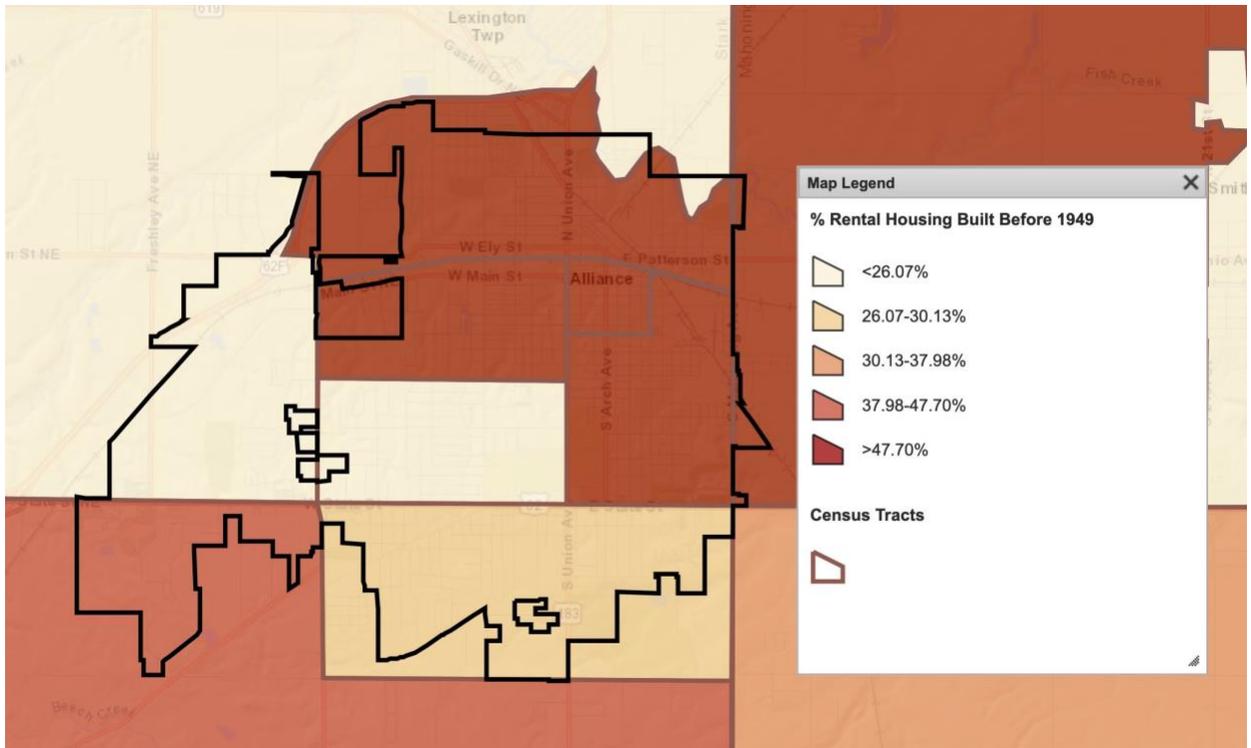
**Percent ELI Households with Substandard Housing**



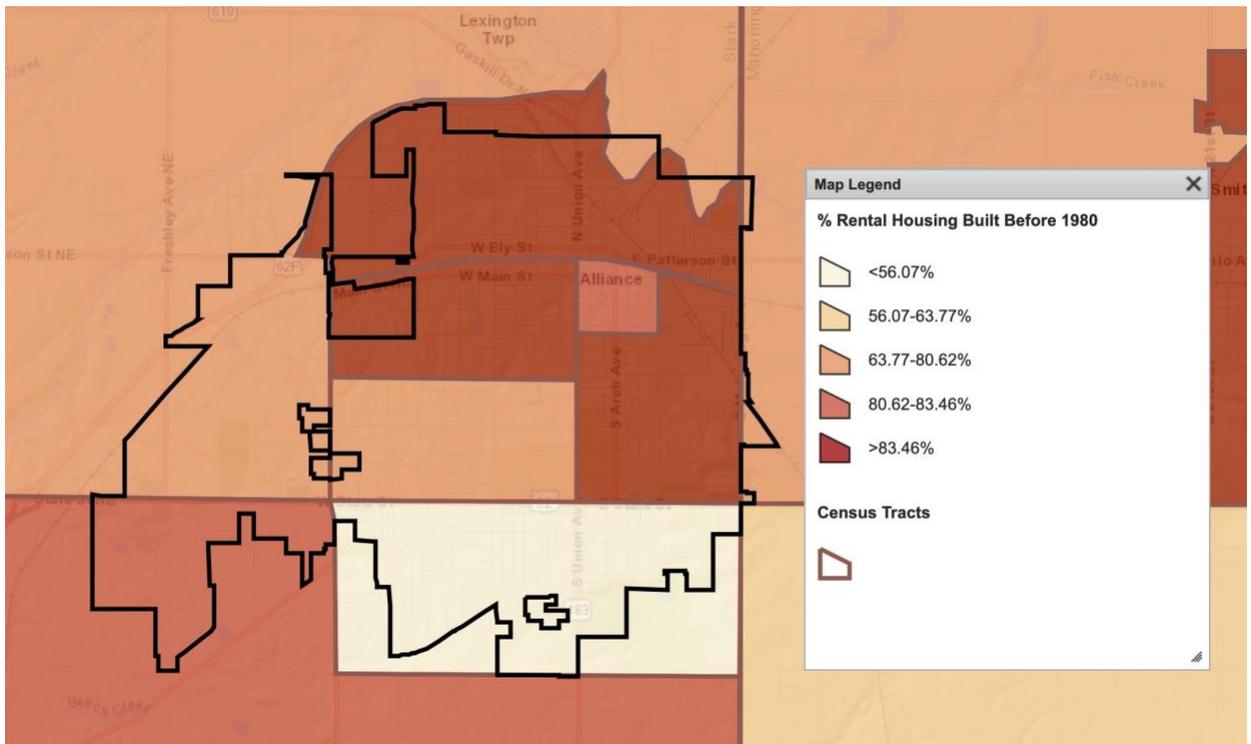
**Percent LI Households with Substandard Housing**



**Percent MI Households with Substandard Housing**



**Percent Rental Housing Built Before 1949**



**Percent Rental Housing Built Before 1980**

## Demographics

Demographics	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Population	22,140	21,670	-2%
Households	8,730	8,565	-2%
Median Income	\$31,914.00	\$36,883.00	16%

**Table NA-1 - Housing Needs Assessment Demographics**

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

## Number of Households Table

	0-30% HAMFI	>30-50% HAMFI	>50-80% HAMFI	>80-100% HAMFI	>100% HAMFI
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>1,835</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>1,730</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>2,665</b>
Small Family Households	495	380	430	235	1,370
Large Family Households	25	140	320	100	55
Household contains at least one person 62-74 years of age	360	315	420	135	810
Household contains at least one person age 75 or older	315	255	330	125	170
Households with one or more children 6 years old or younger	285	220	380	144	145

**Table NA-2 - Total Households Table**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

## Tables NA-1 and NA-2

## Housing Needs Summary Tables

### Housing Problems (Households with one of the listed needs)

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Substandard Housing - Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities	60	45	0	0	105	0	0	0	0	0
Severely Overcrowded - With >1.51 people per room (and complete kitchen and plumbing)	0	0	4	0	4	0	10	0	0	10
Overcrowded - With 1.01-1.5 people per room (and none of the above problems)	0	0	85	0	85	0	0	0	0	0
Housing cost burden greater than 50% of income (and none of the above problems)	690	130	15	0	835	170	55	40	4	269
Housing cost burden greater than 30% of income (and none of the above problems)	220	565	170	55	1,010	95	90	115	45	345
Zero/negative Income (and none of the above problems)	105	0	0	0	105	75	0	0	0	75

**Table NA-3 – Housing Problems Table**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

**Table NA-3**

**Cost Burden > 30%**

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>								
Small Related	280	275	0	555	60	4	60	124
Large Related	25	25	20	70	0	30	0	30
Elderly	190	185	115	490	135	59	70	264
Other	415	235	50	700	70	50	25	145
<b>Total need by income</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>563</b>

**Table NA-4 – Cost Burden > 30%**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

**Cost Burden > 50%**

	Renter				Owner			
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>								
Small Related	0	0	40	40	35	0	0	35
Large Related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Elderly	130	80	15	225	90	29	40	159
Other	0	340	25	365	45	0	0	45
<b>Total need by income</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>239</b>

**Table NA-5 – Cost Burden > 50%**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

**Crowding (More than one person per room)**

	Renter					Owner				
	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total	0-30% AMI	>30-50% AMI	>50-80% AMI	>80-100% AMI	Total
<b>NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS</b>										
Single family households	0	0	59	0	59	0	10	0	0	10
Multiple, unrelated family households	0	0	35	0	35	0	0	0	0	0
Other, non-family households	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total need by income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>

**Table NA-6 – Crowding Information**

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

**Tables NA-4 through NA-6**

## **NA-50 Non-Housing Community Development Needs - 91.415, 91.215 (f)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Facilities:**

A city with older neighborhoods has an ongoing need to maintain public facilities. As opportunities occur, and funding is available, Alliance utilizes a portion of its CDBG funds to leverage the impact of projects that are part of the City's ongoing program to reinvest in public facilities that may include recreation and community facility renovation/repair/replacement, park/recreation improvements, and improvements to facilities housing nonprofit agencies that provide CDBG-eligible services.

### **How were these needs determined?**

City staff monitors the condition and performance of public facilities and implements a systematic program to maintain/improve public safety and services. Community members, organizations, and other public agencies also provide their input to City staff and elected officials.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Improvements:**

A city with aging infrastructure has ongoing needs. As opportunities occur, and funding is available, Alliance utilizes a portion of its CDBG funds to leverage the impact of projects that are part of the City's ongoing program to reinvest in infrastructure such as streets, street lighting, sidewalks, and water/sewer lines.

### **How were these needs determined?**

City staff monitors the condition and performance of community infrastructure and implements a systematic program to maintain/improve public safety and services. Community members, organizations, and other public agencies also provide their input to City staff and elected officials.

### **Describe the jurisdiction's need for Public Services:**

A neighborhood is more than just the physical condition of its building stock. The HUD objective of creating a suitable living environment also means meeting the daily needs of residents. The City annually utilizes the maximum allowable percentage of its CDBG allocation for public service activities, which may include, but are not limited to, elderly services, children and youth services, health, employment, nutrition, fair housing, and homelessness.

### **How were these needs determined?**

On an ongoing basis, City staff and elected officials discuss public service needs with other community stakeholders, such as the school system, churches, nonprofit organizations, and the Continuum of Care. In addition, residents provide input through community meetings and their contact with local organizations and entities. Annually, the City conducts an application and review process for nonprofit organizations for the award of public service dollars through the CDBG program.

# Housing Market Analysis

## MA-05 Overview

### Housing Market Analysis Overview:

Alliance, Ohio, a medium-sized city of 21,670 persons, is located in Stark County. The City is approximately 16 miles northeast of Canton, 27 miles southwest of Youngstown, 35 miles southeast of Akron, and 51 miles southeast of Cleveland, well within commuting distance for jobs. Alliance still retains some of its historic importance as a manufacturing and railroad hub, and it is home to the University of Mount Union, a private liberal arts college established in 1846. The college is also a major employer in the City. Alliance, which is surrounded by suburban townships and large expanses of rural land, has both an historic main street commercial center and newer suburban shopping areas established in the mid- to late- 20th Century. The City's 9,515 housing units are a mix of types, styles, sizes, ages, and conditions. The 2016-2020 ACS shows that only about 580 housing units (6%) have been built citywide since 2000 (**MA-Table 38**), with about 30 housing units being built since the last Consolidated Plan Report. About 11% (945 units) of all housing units are vacant.

According to the 2016-2020 ACS, 45% of all occupied housing units, were owner-occupied units (3,865 units) and 55% were renter-occupied units (4,705 units) (**MA-Tables 26 and 27, NA-Maps-Owner-and Renter-Occupied Housing**). **Table MA-26** showed that about 71% of all units (6,735 units) in Alliance were single-family (detached or attached) housing units, 12% (1,120 units) were 2-4 units, 12% (1,130 units) were 5-19 units, and 5% (520 units) were structures with 20 or more units. There were 10 mobile homes. As shown on **Maps-Percent Structures with 5-19 and 20 or More Housing Units**, percentages of structures with a large number of units varied by Census Tract.

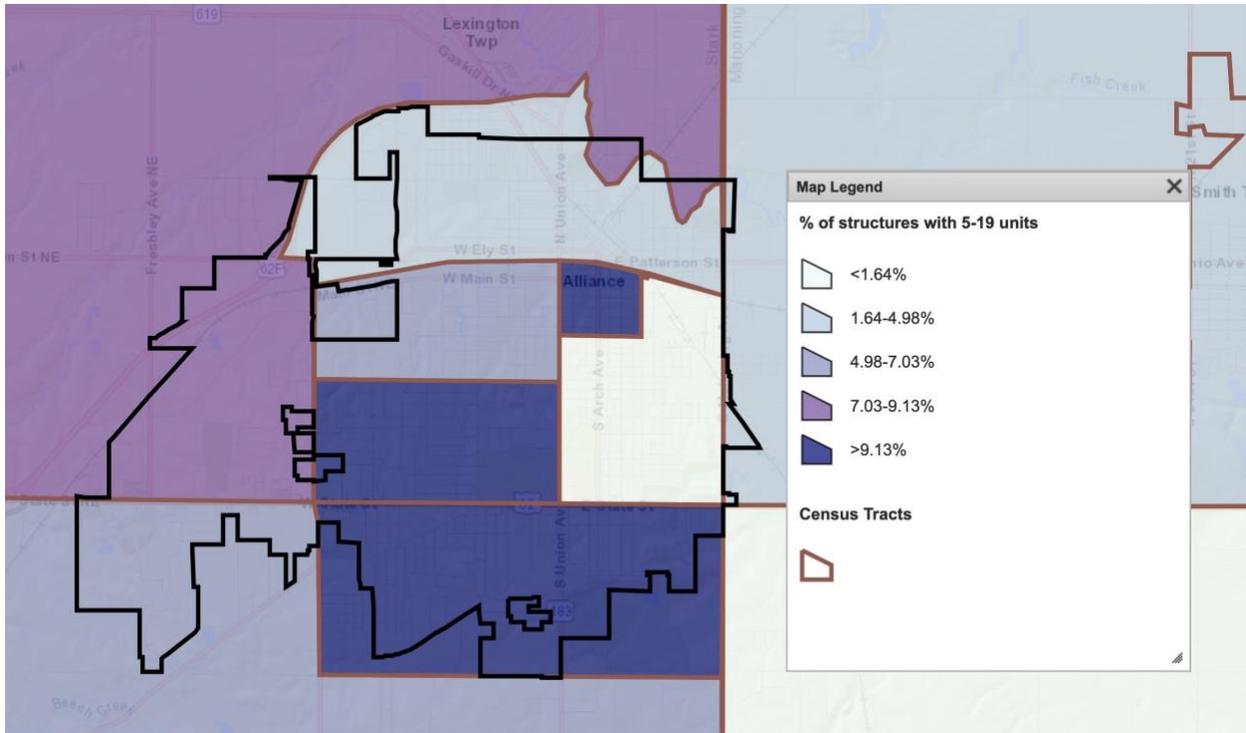
Unit size (number of bedrooms) showed considerable variation by tenure. Larger units were more common among owners, with 77% of all units (2,985 units) having 3 or more bedrooms (**Table MA-32**). Only 22% of all owner units had 2 bedrooms (830 units) and 1% had 1 bedroom (50 units). There were no units with zero bedrooms. Conversely, only 41% of all renter-occupied units had 3 or more bedrooms (1,910 units), 38% had 2 bedrooms (1,780 units), 21% had 1 bedroom (970 units), and 1% had zero bedrooms (45 units). The percent of units with 3 or more bedrooms, regardless of tenure, varied by Census Tract (**Maps-Percent Owner and Renter Units with 3 or More Bedrooms**).

**Table MA-33** showed that the median home value in Alliance (\$85,200) increased by about 7% since 2009. The median contract rent (\$524) increased 11%. Changes varied by Census Tract (**NA-Maps-Median Home Value, Median Contract Rent, and Change in Median Contract Rent**). When rent paid is examined by category, almost 47% of all rents paid were less than \$500. Another 52% were \$500-\$999 (**Table MA-34**). The remaining 1% were \$1,000-\$1,499.

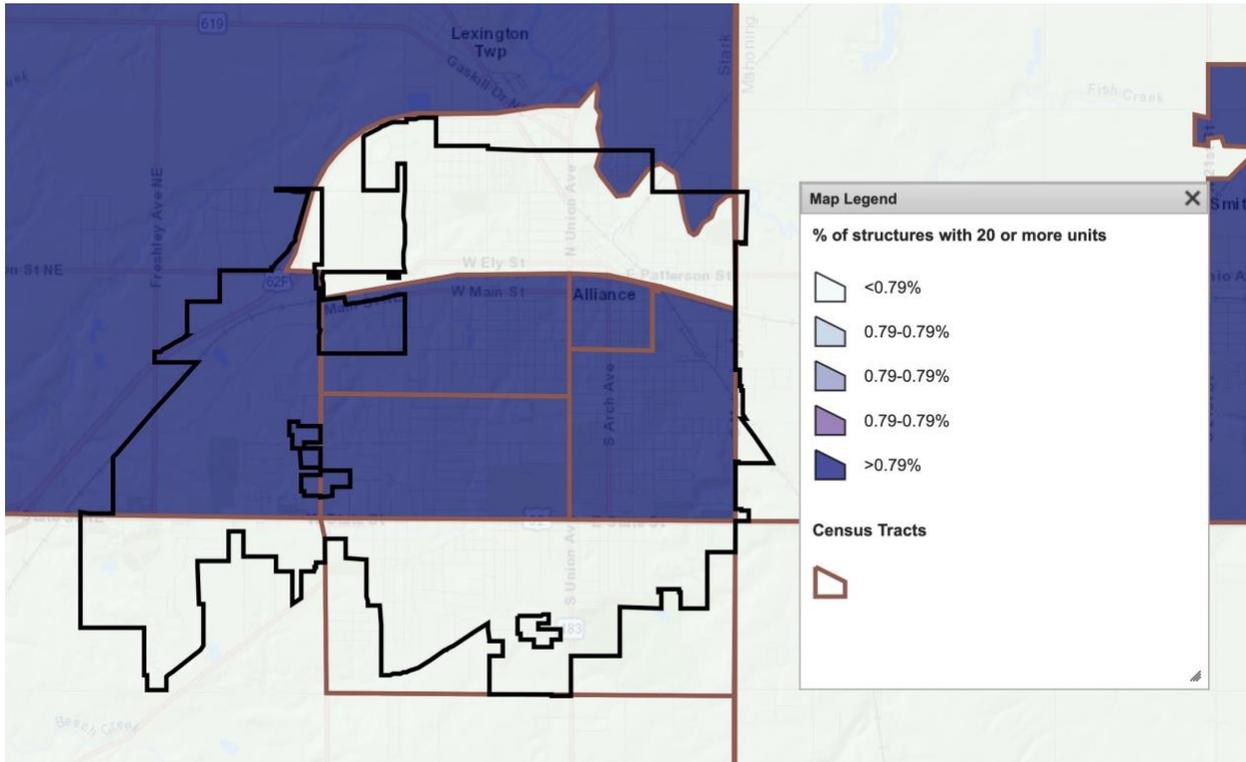
Housing affordability is an issue for many owner and renter households in Alliance (**Table MA-30**). Only 9% (575 rental units) are affordable to renter households at 30% of the HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) (**Map-Percent Renter Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI**). About 34% (2,175 rental units) are affordable to renter households at 50% HAMFI (**Map-Percent Renter Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI**). About 57% (3,615 rental units) are affordable to renter households at 80% HAMFI (**Map-Percent Renter Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI**). No data is available for renter households at 100% HAMFI. Owner units are even less affordable to low-income households. While no data is available for owner households at 30% HAMFI, about 17% (730 owner units) are affordable to owner households at 50% HAMFI (**Map-Percent Owner Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI**). Approximately 37% (1,570 owner units) are affordable to owner households at 80% HAMFI (**Map-Percent Owner Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI**). About 46% (1,990 owner units) are affordable to owner households at 100% HAMFI (**Map-Percent Owner Units Affordable to 100% HAMFI**).

While very few housing units were considered substandard as defined by the Census, where the unit lacked complete plumbing or kitchen facilities, about 32% (2,735 units) of all households lived in housing units that had at least one selected condition issue. Renter households more frequently lived in housing with a condition than did owner households, since 23% (1,990 units) of renter-occupied units had one condition issue and 1% (60 units) had two conditions issues. Only 8% (685 units) of owner-occupied units had one condition issue and no units had two conditions issues (**Table MA-37**).

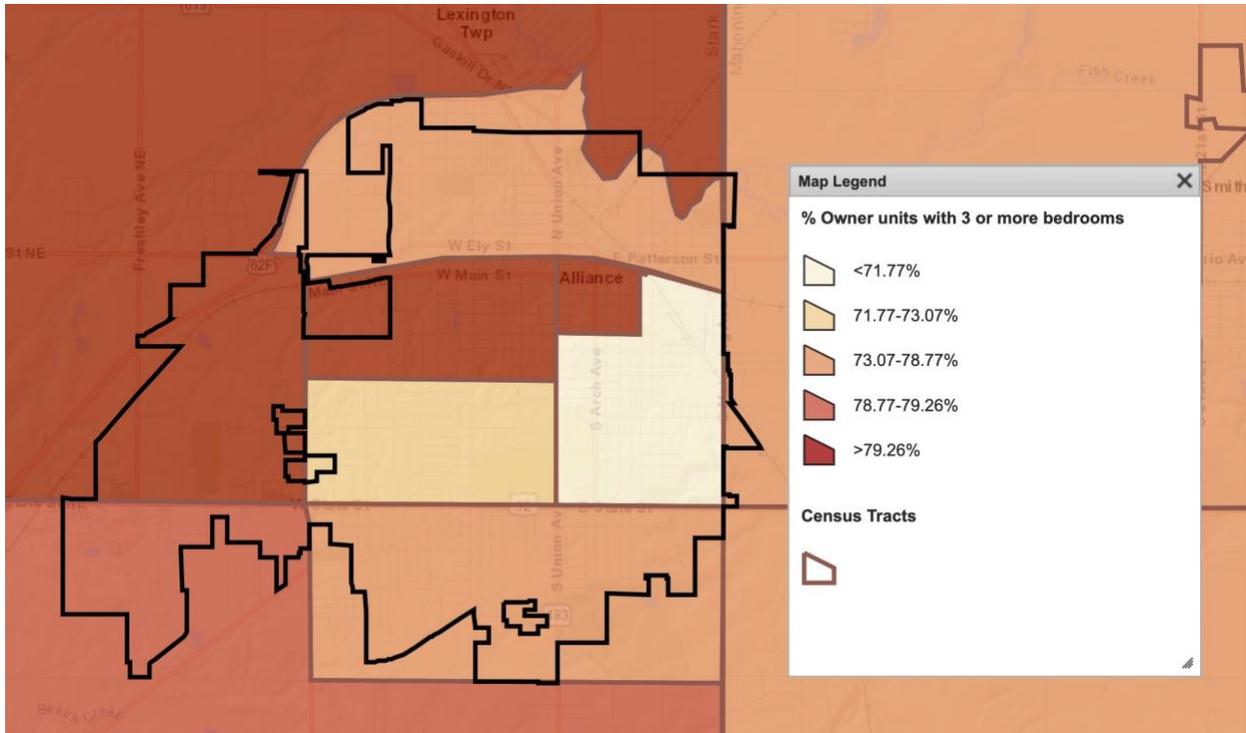
As discussed in NA-05, the age of housing can be an indicator of condition. The main period of housing construction in Alliance was pre-1980, when about 82% of all housing units were built (**Table MA-38**). These units are now at least 44 years old, and may require systems replacement and a significant rehabilitation investment. Furthermore, of the 7,010 occupied housing units built before 1980, there were 180 units (3%) occupied by families with children age six or under (**Table MA-34 and Table 13, 2016-2020 CHAS data**). Because lead wasn't banned from paint until 1978, these children could be at risk for lead paint poisoning.



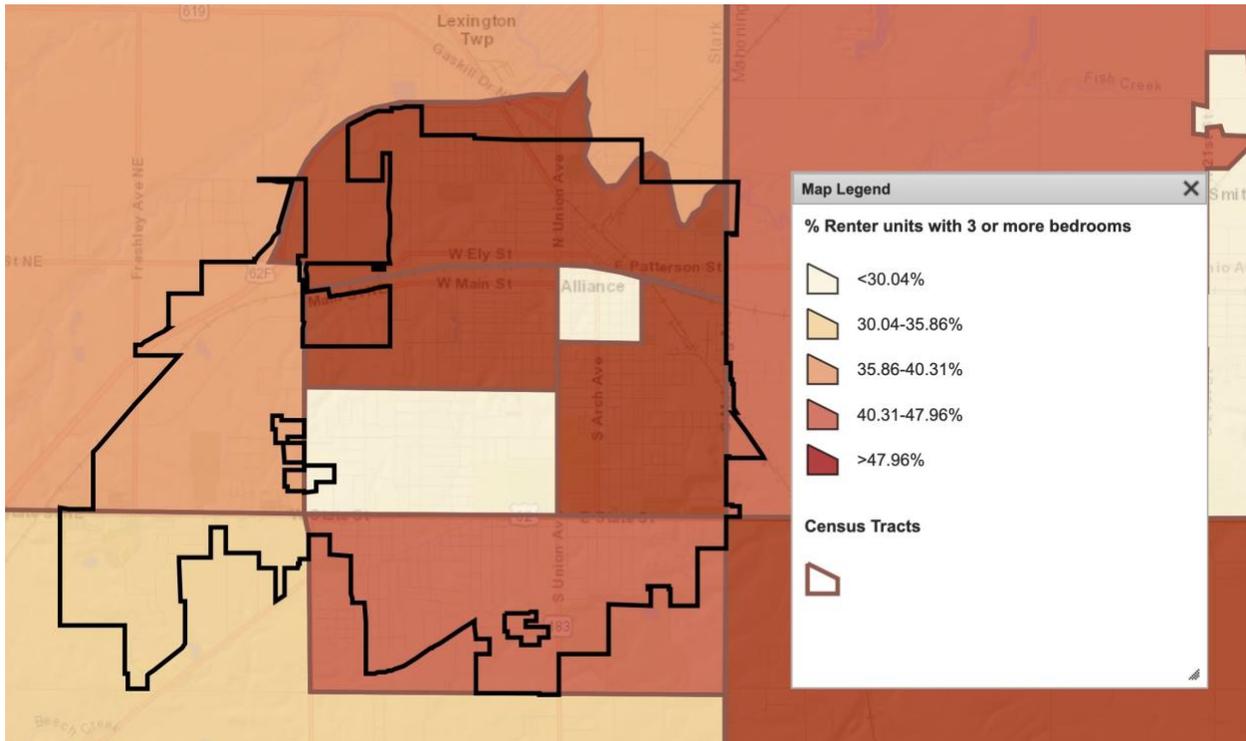
**Percent of Structures with 5-19 Units**



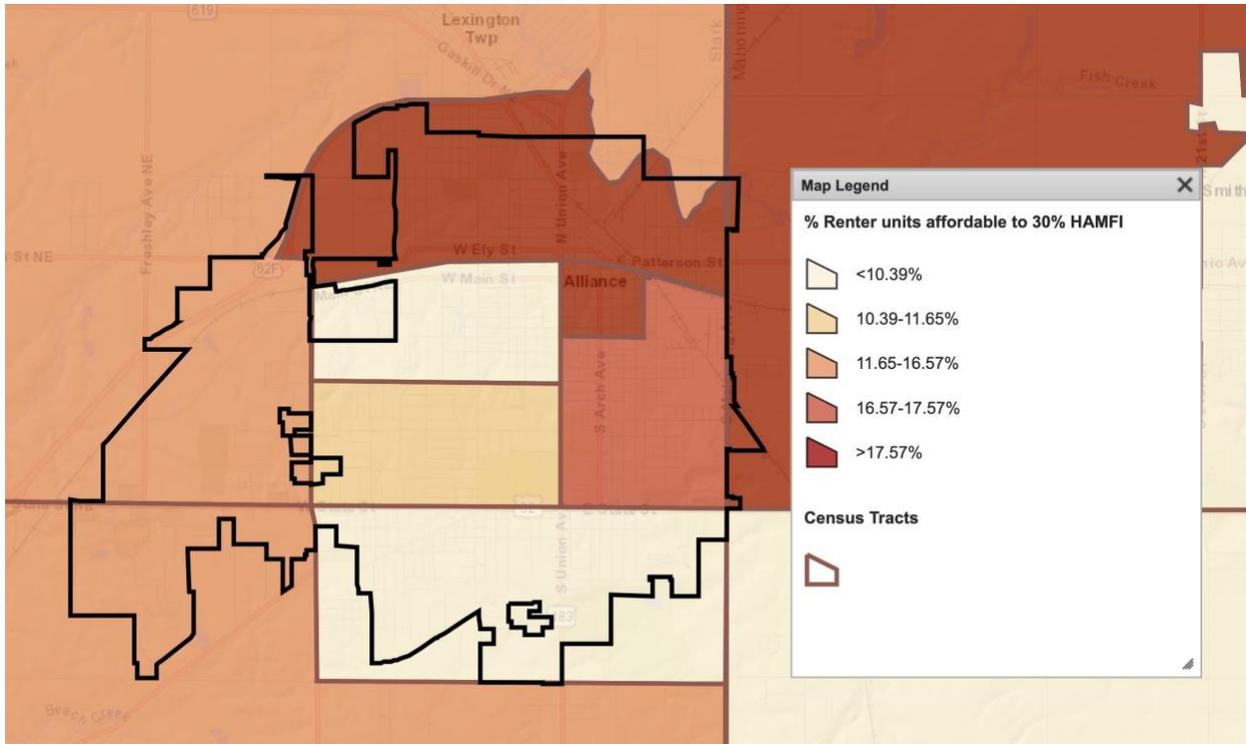
**Percent of Structures with 20 or More Units**



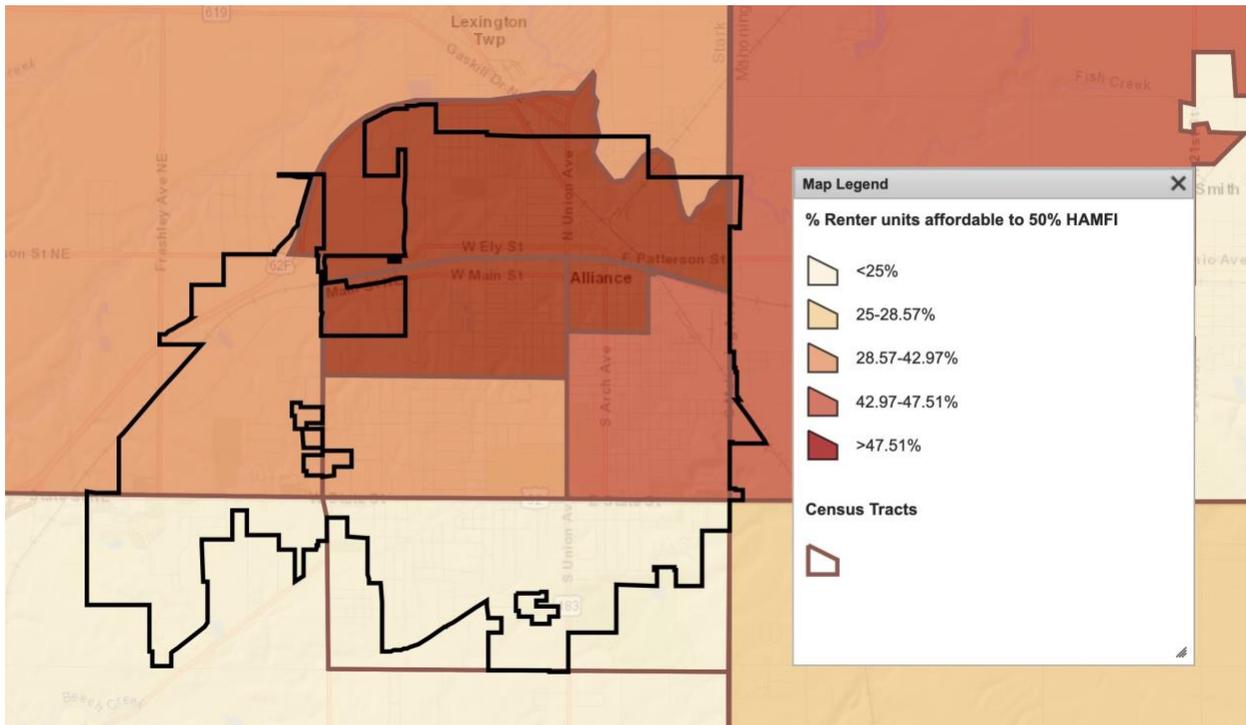
**Percent Owner Units with Three Bedrooms or More**



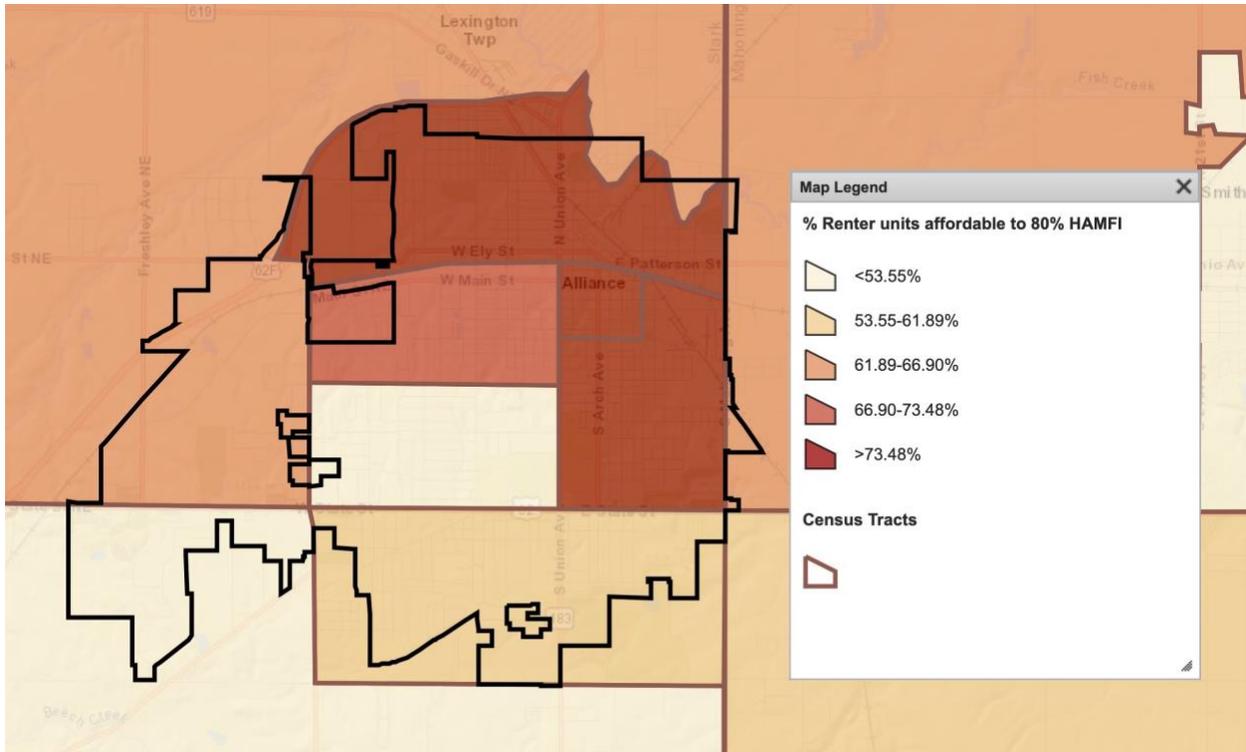
**Percent Renter Units with Three Bedrooms or More**



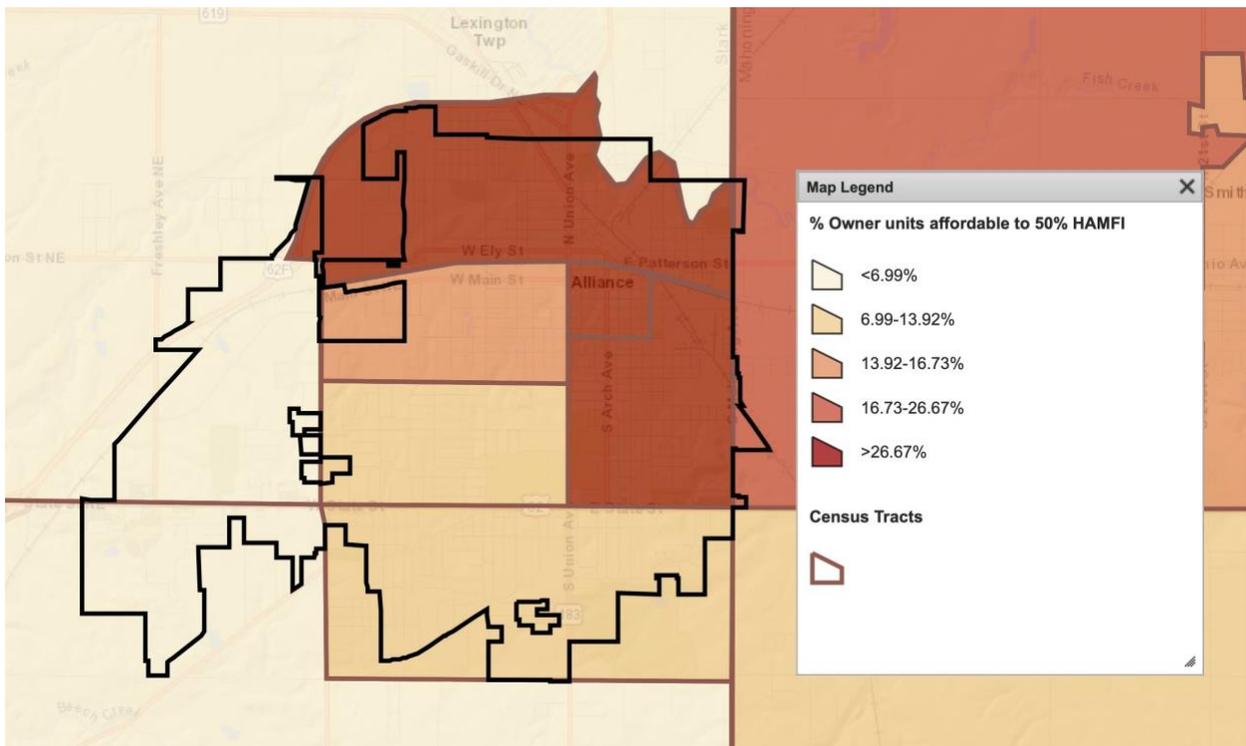
**Percent Renter Units Affordable to 30% HAMFI**



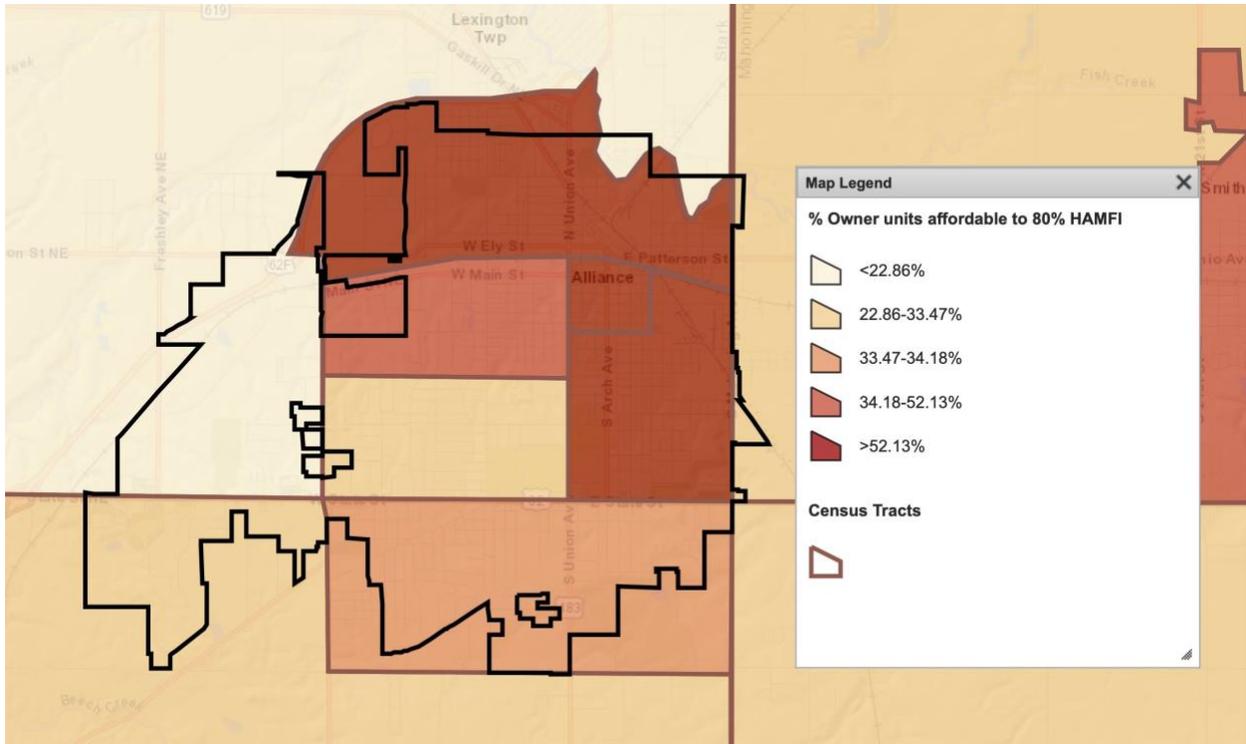
**Percent Renter Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI**



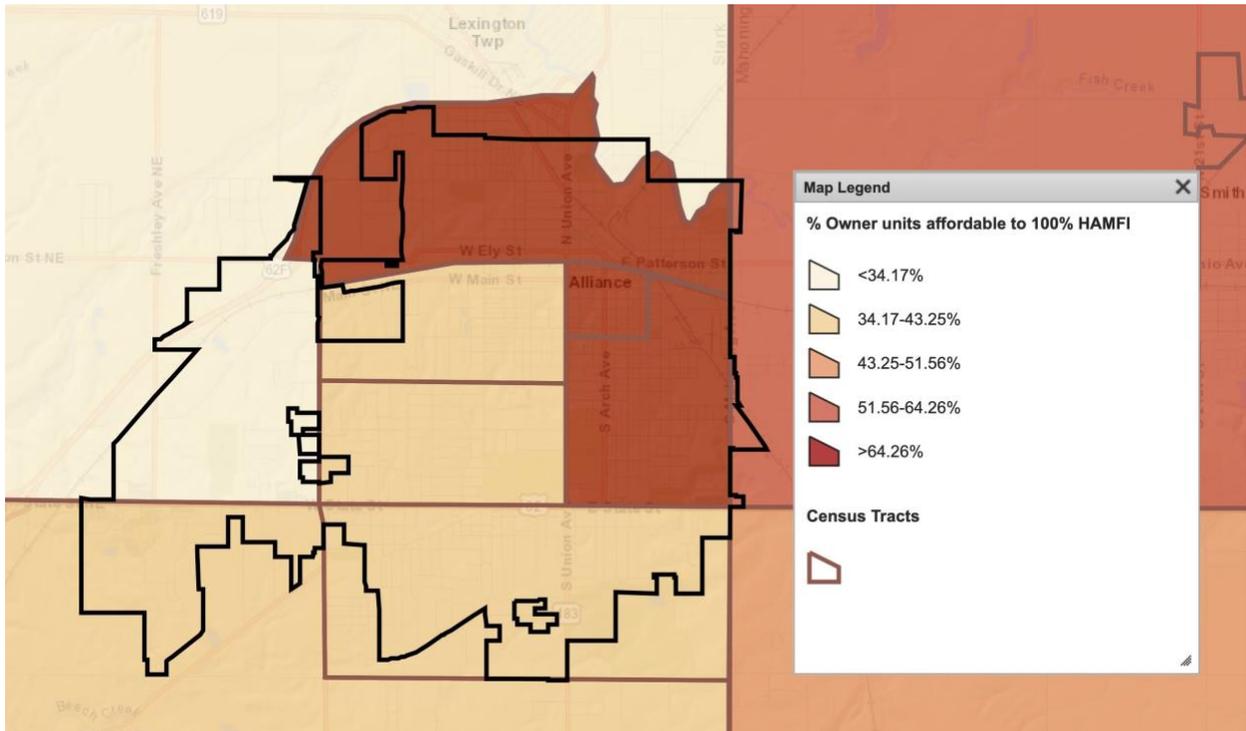
**Percent Renter Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI**



**Percent Owner Units Affordable to 50% HAMFI**



**Percent Owner Units Affordable to 80% HAMFI**



**Percent Owner Units Affordable to 100% HAMFI**

### All residential properties by number of units

Property Type	Number	%
1-unit detached structure	6,580	69%
1-unit, attached structure	155	2%
2-4 units	1,120	12%
5-19 units	1,130	12%
20 or more units	520	5%
Mobile Home, boat, RV, van, etc.	10	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,515</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table MA-1 – Residential Properties by Unit Number**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Unit Size by Tenure

	Owners		Renters	
	Number	%	Number	%
No bedroom	0	0%	45	1%
1 bedroom	50	1%	970	21%
2 bedrooms	830	22%	1,780	38%
3 or more bedrooms	2,985	77%	1,910	41%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,705</b>	<b>101%</b>

**Table MA-2 – Unit Size by Tenure**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Cost of Housing

	Base Year: 2009	Most Recent Year: 2020	% Change
Median Home Value	79,400	85,200	7%
Median Contract Rent	470	524	11%

**Table MA-3 – Cost of Housing**

Data Source: 2000 Census (Base Year), 2016-2020 ACS (Most Recent Year)

### Rent Paid

Rent Paid	Number	%
Less than \$500	2,225	47.3%
\$500-999	2,425	51.5%
\$1,000-1,499	45	1.0%
\$1,500-1,999	0	0.0%
\$2,000 or more	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,695</b>	<b>99.8%</b>

**Table MA-4 - Rent Paid**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Tables MA-1 through MA-4

### Housing Affordability

% Units affordable to Households earning	Renter	Owner
30% HAMFI	575	No Data
50% HAMFI	2,175	730
80% HAMFI	3,615	1,570
100% HAMFI	No Data	1,990
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,365</b>	<b>4,290</b>

Table MA-5 – Housing Affordability

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

### Monthly Rent

Monthly Rent (\$)	Efficiency (no bedroom)	1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Fair Market Rent					
High HOME Rent					
Low HOME Rent					

Table MA-6 – Monthly Rent

Data Source: HUD FMR and HOME Rents

### Condition of Units

Condition of Units	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
With one selected Condition	685	18%	1,990	42%
With two selected Conditions	0	0%	60	1%
With three selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
With four selected Conditions	0	0%	0	0%
No selected Conditions	3,175	82%	2,650	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,700</b>	<b>99%</b>

Table MA-7 - Condition of Units

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS

### Year Unit Built

Year Unit Built	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
2000 or later	195	5%	385	8%
1980-1999	300	8%	680	14%
1950-1979	1,210	31%	1,470	31%
Before 1950	2,155	56%	2,175	46%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,860</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4,710</b>	<b>99%</b>

Table MA-8 – Year Unit Built

Data Source: 2016-2020 CHAS

### Tables MA-5 through MA-8

**Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard**

Risk of Lead-Based Paint Hazard	Owner-Occupied		Renter-Occupied	
	Number	%	Number	%
Total Number of Units Built Before 1980	3,365	87%	3,645	77%
Housing Units built before 1980 with children present	145	4%	35	1%

**Table MA-9 – Risk of Lead-Based Paint**

Data Source: 2016-2020 ACS (Total Units) 2016-2020 CHAS (Units with Children present)

**Vacant Units (Optional Table)**

For a general discussion concerning this table, please refer to Section MA-20 in the Stark Housing Consortium FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

	Suitable for Rehabilitation	Not Suitable for Rehabilitation	Total
Vacant Units	Not available	Not available	Not available
Abandoned Vacant Units	Not available	Not available	Not available
REO Properties	Not available	Not available	Not available
Abandoned REO Properties	Not available	Not available	Not available

**Table MA-10 - Vacant Units**

Tables MA-9 and MA-10

## MA-45 Non-Housing Community Development Assets - 91.410, 91.210(f)

### Introduction

Alliance, located in Stark County, was formed in 1854 by the merger of three smaller communities. Alliance became the intersection point of two railroads, stimulating industrial growth during the 19th and 20th centuries by bringing in raw materials and shipping out finished products. Today, both railroads lines are part of the Norfolk Southern network. Manufacturing remains important to Alliance’s economy, however following the national trend, Alliance’s economy has been shifting to a more services-based economy. The largest sector in Alliance’s economy today is education and health care services.

### Economic Development Market Analysis

#### Business Activity

Business by Sector	Number of Workers	Number of Jobs	Share of Workers %	Share of Jobs %	Jobs less workers %
Agriculture, Mining, Oil & Gas Extraction	65	5	1	0	-1
Arts, Entertainment, Accommodations	901	1,340	11	15	4
Construction	376	193	5	2	-3
Education and Health Care Services	1,853	3,192	23	35	12
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	305	214	4	2	-2
Information	74	58	1	1	0
Manufacturing	1,956	1,489	24	16	-8
Other Services	296	324	4	4	0
Professional, Scientific, Management Services	403	179	5	2	-3
Public Administration	0	0	0	0	0
Retail Trade	1,101	1,771	14	19	5
Transportation and Warehousing	258	21	3	0	-3
Wholesale Trade	438	363	5	4	-1
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,026</b>	<b>9,149</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>

**Table 5 - Business Activity**

**Alternate Data Source Name:**

2016-2020 ACS (Workers), 2020 Longitudinal Employee

**Data Source**

**Comments:**

## Labor Force

Total Population in the Civilian Labor Force	9,940
Civilian Employed Population 16 years and over	9,180
Unemployment Rate	7.65
Unemployment Rate for Ages 16-24	14.52
Unemployment Rate for Ages 25-65	5.17

**Table 6 - Labor Force**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2016-2020 ACS

Occupations by Sector		Number of People
Management, business and financial	1,420	
Farming, fisheries and forestry occupations	190	
Service	1,235	
Sales and office	1,805	
Construction, extraction, maintenance and repair	614	
Production, transportation and material moving	730	

**Table 7 – Occupations by Sector**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2016-2020 ACS

## Travel Time

Travel Time	Number	Percentage
< 30 Minutes	6,304	73%
30-59 Minutes	1,997	23%
60 or More Minutes	322	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,623</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Table 8 - Travel Time**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2016-2020 ACS

**Education:**

**Educational Attainment by Employment Status (Population 16 and Older)**

Educational Attainment	In Labor Force		Not in Labor Force
	Civilian Employed	Unemployed	
Less than high school graduate	575	30	535
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	2,610	280	1,305
Some college or Associate's degree	1,565	170	660
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,695	20	350

**Table 9 - Educational Attainment by Employment Status**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2016-2020 ACS

**Educational Attainment by Age**

	Age				
	18-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-65 yrs	65+ yrs
Less than 9th grade	10	44	30	185	130
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	180	255	130	505	495
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	815	1,035	870	2,290	1,690
Some college, no degree	2,090	530	395	1,020	520
Associate's degree	70	160	65	230	125
Bachelor's degree	245	315	310	780	465
Graduate or professional degree	20	90	210	365	330

**Table 10 - Educational Attainment by Age**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2016-2020 ACS

**Educational Attainment – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Educational Attainment	Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months
Less than high school graduate	\$ 26,281
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	\$ 32,786
Some college or Associate's degree	\$ 37,388
Bachelor's degree	\$ 59,444
Graduate or professional degree	\$ 58,382

**Table 11 – Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months**

Alternate Data Source Name:  
2018-2022 ACS

**Based on the Business Activity table above, what are the major employment sectors within your jurisdiction?**

The City of Alliance has about 8,000 workers and about 9,150 jobs (**Table 5 – Note HUD has set Public Administration line to zero to emphasize non-public sector employment**). The largest employment sectors based on share of jobs are Education and Health Care Services (35%), Retail Trade (19%), Manufacturing (16%), and Arts/Entertainment/Accommodations (15%). These four sectors represent about 85% (7,792) of all jobs.

When reviewed by the share of workers in Alliance’s employed workforce, the two largest sectors are Manufacturing (24%) and Education and Health Care Services (23%), which represent 47% (3,809) of all workers. Retail Trade (13%) and Arts/Entertainment/Accommodations (11%) represent another 25% of all workers (2,002).

Overall, the number of jobs in Alliance (9,149) is about 114% of the number of employed Alliance residents in those occupations (8,026). For example, about 1,853 Alliance residents are employed in the Education and Health Care Services fields, but there are about 3,192 jobs in those occupations in Alliance, meaning more than 1,300 persons who are not Alliance residents travel in to Alliance to work in jobs in those fields.

**Describe the workforce and infrastructure needs of the business community:**

**Workforce Needs**

Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland research has outlined the importance of education and innovation in the income growth of a region. Innovation creates jobs and improves productivity, but it requires an educated and appropriately trained workforce. Improving the overall educational attainment of the Alliance and Stark County workforce is important. Ongoing training for new and veteran workers is also a priority. In Alliance, these needs apply to a number of the important employment sectors discussed in the preceding question, where technical knowledge, continually updated training, and a higher level of management and administrative skills are important. For Alliance, these needs are particularly important in healthcare and manufacturing.

**Infrastructure Needs**

There are many arterial roads that extend through Alliance. This road network represents important commuting routes and provides access to industrial, office, and commercial districts throughout the city, which are employment, shopping, and entertainment hubs.

In addition, Alliance needs dependable roadway infrastructure to be part of the county and regional economy. US 62 skirts the western boundary of Alliance, and the city is about ten miles south of I-76

and fifteen miles east of I-77. These highways provide important access to the Akron, Canton, and Youngstown metropolitan areas.

Roadway investment is an ongoing need for the industrial, office, and commercial districts in Alliance. Well maintained roads result in less cumulative wear to vehicles of employees, customers, mass transit providers, and delivery firms. In many areas, roadway work must be supplemented with improvements to sidewalks and parking areas, as well as items such as street furniture and plantings, in order to create an inviting shopping/employment area.

The Stark County Engineer's Office has an ongoing pavement condition assessment program, and maintenance of some arterial roads in Alliance is the responsibility of the County. Funding sources include federal funds allocated through the Stark County Area Transportation Study (the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the area), the Ohio Public Works Commission annual competitive grant program, and County fees. The City of Alliance also recognizes the need for infrastructure investment and as funding permits, prioritizes street improvement projects through the CDBG funding program.

In a broader view, other types of infrastructure also need continuing modernization to meet current standards and demands. In addition to roads and bridges, infrastructure systems including sanitary and storm sewers, as well as electric, natural gas, and water utilities.

**Describe any major changes that may have an economic impact, such as planned local or regional public or private sector investments or initiatives that have affected or may affect job and business growth opportunities during the planning period. Describe any needs for workforce development, business support or infrastructure these changes may create.**

The City of Alliance works to maintain and expand employment opportunities within the community. The City also maintains a relationship with the Stark Economic Development Board, which focuses on retaining, expanding, and attracting investment in Stark County. The Board provides financing through federal and state programs, location and building searches, government relations coordination, economic development incentive packaging and infrastructure planning.

**How do the skills and education of the current workforce correspond to employment opportunities in the jurisdiction?**

Workers employed in Alliance are a combination of persons who also reside within Alliance or travel into Alliance to work. Regardless of a worker's home community, the workforce issues are similar. The dominant issue is the ongoing need for more education and training.

**Tables 9, 10, and 11**, showing data from the 2016-20 ACS, emphasize the correlation of education and employment, along with the generational change that is occurring in the City of Alliance. Looking at the ratio of employed to unemployed persons in the labor force, roughly one-in-ten persons with a high

school degree or less were unemployed. The number of unemployed persons dropped to one-in-nine for persons with some college or Associate's degree, and to about one-in-eighty-four for persons with a bachelor's degree or higher. The attainment of additional education beyond high school is beneficial, and in many situations essential, for the diverse fields represented among Alliance residents. Generationally, regardless of age – 25-34, 35-44, 45-64, or 65+, about 25% of Alliance adults have an Associate, Bachelor, or graduate/professional degree. In addition, data also showed that Alliance residents with some college or an Associate degree earned 42% more than a person who did not graduate from high school (\$37,388 vs. \$26,281). For persons with a graduate or professional degree, annual earnings increased roughly another \$20,000 from an Associate degree level.

**Describe any current workforce training initiatives, including those supported by Workforce Investment Boards, community colleges and other organizations. Describe how these efforts will support the jurisdiction's Consolidated Plan.**

A variety of workforce training initiatives and opportunities are available for Alliance residents and workers. For example, programs at Aultman College of Nursing and Health Sciences focus on nursing education. Kent State University main campus and Stark campus offer professional continuing education and training courses. Other training sources include:

**Ohio Technical Center**

The Ohio Technical Center is a public postsecondary career and technical education center, under The Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Center offers programs in technical skill trades resulting in certificates, industry-recognized certifications, and state licensures.

**Stark State College**

The College offers 230 majors, options, one-year certificates, and career enhancement certificates, plus continuing education and contract training activities.

**OhioMeansJobs – Stark and Tuscarawas Counties (OMJ)**

The local Workforce Development Board assists both employers and job seekers by coordinating workforce development activities of the employment, education, and economic development entities in the region. **The OhioMeansJobs One-Stop partnership** supports the **Workforce Development Board** by serving as a consolidated employment resource for all partner programs, employers, and job seekers.

**Ohio Development Services Agency**

Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) is an employer-sponsored program made available through OhioMeansJobs Stark and Tuscarawas Counties that provides grant funding to assist eligible businesses

(with a primary emphasis on manufacturing and healthcare industries) offset the cost of training their existing (incumbent) workers. Its intent is to create a stronger workforce for workers and employers with the opportunity to build and maintain a quality workforce and avert layoffs.

### **Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education (NOCHE)**

NOCHE's 23-county coverage area encompasses higher education institutions that enroll more than 226,000 degree-seeking students and grant more than 35,000 certificates and degrees annually. NOCHE promotes and expands internships and co-ops as a way for college students to gain valuable workplace skills and organizations to increase productivity and develop a talent pipeline. NOCHE also focuses on raising educational attainment so more Northeast Ohio residents earn postsecondary credentials.

### **Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc.**

Goodwill Industries provides a comprehensive set of services designed to improve employment skills, focusing on pre-employment training (career counseling, assessments, work adjustment, and job coaching) and job placement services.

### **Does your jurisdiction participate in a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)?**

Yes

**If so, what economic development initiatives are you undertaking that may be coordinated with the Consolidated Plan? If not, describe other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth.**

Yes. (U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration program)

The City of Alliance participates in a CEDS through its involvement with the Northeast Ohio Four County Regional Planning and Development Organization (NEFCO).

In 1978, NEFCO was designated as an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) for Portage, Stark, Summit, and Wayne Counties. This designation gives member communities ongoing eligibility for economic assistance programs through the EDA.

NEFCO maintains this eligibility by updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS, current document 2023-28), a document required by the EDA and containing the region's goals and objectives, and the economic development priorities of NEFCO members. The CEDS, which represents

the consensus of NEFCO’s dues-paying members, articulates the economic development planning priorities of the region.

NEFCO’s regional economic development planning program strives to grow the region’s economy through collaborative planning efforts with NEFCO’s area governments and by providing assistance in activities that: promote a diversified and sustainable economy; support the most economically distressed areas of the region; capitalize on the region’s existing strengths and assist with efforts to promote innovation and technology; and ensure the efficient use and development of land and resources.

Other local/regional plans or initiatives that impact economic growth:

### **Strengthening Stark**

The Stark Economic and Development Board (SEDB) represents the cities and townships in Stark County as an economic development advocate, focusing on business expansion and attraction efforts. SEBD’s efforts include business attraction, business financing, real estate development, zoning and regulatory compliance, funding for environmental remediation, private equity financing, and the administration of the Stark County Port Authority.

<https://www.starkcoohio.com/index.php?submenu=ourTeammates&src=gendocs&ref=strengtheningStark&category=ourTeammates/&link=strengtheningStark>

### **Vibrant NEO 2040 - Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium Initiative**

Funded by a HUD/USDOT/USEPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative grant, this twelve county regional project guided by 33 organizations developed a vision for the future of Northeast Ohio. The eight objectives include promoting investment in established communities, developing the regional economy with accessible employment opportunities, and enhancing the regional transportation network. <http://vibrantneo.org>

## MA-50 Needs and Market Analysis Discussion

### Are there areas where households with multiple housing problems are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")

HUD defines "housing problems" as one or more of the following:

**Substandard Housing**-Lacking complete plumbing or kitchen facilities.

**Overcrowded**-Housing more than 1.01 to 1.50 persons per room excluding bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls or half rooms.

**Severely Overcrowded**- Housing more than 1.51 persons per room excluding bathrooms, porches, foyers, halls or half rooms.

**Housing Cost Burden**-Housing costs that are more than 30% of the household's total gross income. For renters, cost includes rent paid plus utilities. For owners, cost includes mortgage payments, taxes, insurance, and utilities.

**Household Has No/Negative Income**-Households whose income is zero or negative due to self-employment, dividends, and net rental income.

A "**concentration**" of multiple housing problems can be defined as households who experience multiple housing problems at a greater rate (10 percentage points or greater) than the households for the City of Alliance as a whole.

Information from the CPD Maps Report and the 2016-2020 ACS was used as sources for citywide and Census Tract data. This information showed that there were 5,200 low- and moderate-income households living in Alliance that had one or more of the "housing problems" listed above. **Maps- Households with Any of 4 Housing Problems, ELI, LI, and MI Households** shown in the Needs Assessment illustrates where the most serious issues occur.

The HUD mandated tables for Alliance, showed that of the 8,565 households in the City, 22.11% (1,304 households) had any of 4 housing problems. Using the above-cited definition of "concentration," (22.11% plus 10 percentage points = 32.11%), there was a "concentration" of households with any of 4 housing problems living in the City in Census Tract 7104 with 39.24% of all households, Census Tract 7105 with 35.25% of all households, Census Tract 7106 with 37.63% of all households, and Census Tract 7108 with 37.63% of all households with any of 4 housing problems.

Cost burden was the major problem cited by most of the households having one or more "housing problems" The HUD mandated tables for Alliance, showed that of the 8,565 households in the City,

27.76% were cost burdened. Using the above-cited definition of “concentration,” (27.76% plus 10 percentage points = 37.76%), there was a “concentration” of Cost Burdened households living in the City in Census Tract 7104, with 37.97% of households and in Census Tract 7108, with 40.78% of households have a cost burden.

Only very small percentages of households lived in housing that was substandard or lived in over-crowded conditions. Investment in the housing stock is needed through rehabilitation, resolution of code violations, nuisance abatement, and selected demolition. The main period of housing construction in Alliance was pre-1980, when 82% of the housing was built. Much of the housing stock in Alliance is at least 44 years old, and may require systems replacement and a significant rehabilitation investment.

### **Are there any areas in the jurisdiction where racial or ethnic minorities or low-income families are concentrated? (include a definition of "concentration")**

A concentration of racial/ethnic persons or low-income households can be defined as person/household, racial, or income types that occur in an area at a greater rate (10 percentage points or greater) than the person/household types for the City of Alliance as a whole.

#### **Concentration of Racial/Ethnic Persons**

The 2016-20 ACS for Alliance showed that of the 21,670 persons citywide, 8.06% (1,747 persons) were **Black or African American**. Using the above-cited definition of “concentration” (8.06% plus 10 percentage points = 18.06%), there was a “concentration” of Black or African Americans living the City in Census Tract 7104, with 30.63% Black or African Americans living in Alliance. The percentages of American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Some Other Race, or Two or More Races, as well as persons of Hispanic origin were very small and did not constitute a “concentration” of persons in any Census Tract in the City.

#### **Concentration of Low-Income Households**

The HUD mandated tables for Alliance, showed that of the 8,600 households in the City, 40% of households (3,470 households) had incomes that were 0-50% of the HUD Area Median Family Income (HAMFI) (1,835 Extremely Low Income [ELI] Households with incomes that were 0-30% of HAMFI and 1,635 Low Income [LI] Households with incomes that were 31-50% of HAMFI). Using the above-cited definition of “concentration,” (40.35% plus 10 percentage points = 50.35%), there was a “concentration” of Low-Income households living in the City in Census Tract 7102, with 58.82% Low-Income households and in Census Tract 7104, with 76.40% Low-Income households.

### **What are the characteristics of the market in these areas/neighborhoods?**

Most of the households living in these areas of “concentration” have median household incomes that are significantly below the City’s median household income of \$36,883 (HUD Mandated Tables). There are also higher poverty and unemployment rates than the citywide rates of 24.79% poverty and 7.65% unemployment. In terms of housing, most of the areas of “concentration” listed above exhibited higher vacancy rates than the citywide rate of about 11%, and low homeownership rates. About one-half of the areas listed had percentages of older rental housing stock that exceeded the citywide percentage. Median contract rents and median home values in most of the areas were generally lower when compared to citywide figures for median contract rent (\$524) and median home value (\$85,200).

### **Are there any community assets in these areas/neighborhoods?**

Housing located in these neighborhoods offer a broad range of options in terms of styles, sizes, types, and prices. Residents are not far from several parks and recreation facilities, as well as the historic downtown district, an area where the local government and private sector are focusing revitalization efforts and scheduling events and activities, such as a weekly farmers market. At just under 9 square miles in size, the city is fairly compact. Additionally, Alliance is served by the Stark County Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) bus system. Citywide, institutional assets which residents may access include the YWCA, the Rodman Public Library, public and parochial schools, and the University of Mount Union, a private, four-year higher education institution with a long legacy in Northeast Ohio and beyond. A number of manufacturing companies are based in Alliance, and they not only provide jobs to area residents, but are committed to improving the community as well.

### **Are there other strategic opportunities in any of these areas?**

HUD has designated Census Tract 7104 as an Opportunity Zone. The Opportunity Zones are a place-based economic development policy that incentivizes long-term investment in economically distressed communities by providing tax benefits for U.S. taxpayers with capital gains who invest in Opportunity Zone locations. The primary benefit is that once an investor achieves a 10-year holding period within an Opportunity Zone investment, the gain from the sale of the investment is 100% tax-free.

The City of Alliance offers Community Reinvestment and Enterprise Zone Agreements to qualifying commercial and residential applicants as a tax abatement incentive for development and expansion. Additionally, the City seeks opportunities to repurpose/consolidate vacant parcels for new development.

There are numerous public and non-profit agencies in the City of Alliance that work together to provide housing and social services to low- and moderate-income residents, retain and attract jobs, institute infrastructure and streetscape improvements, improve the housing stock, implement commercial revitalization, and generally improve the quality of life for all residents in the city.

The Department of Planning and Development utilizes CDBG and HOME funding to address housing and community needs, including housing rehabilitation, code enforcement, and affordable housing and anti-poverty strategies.

The City, along with its partners from the non-profit, institutional, and business community, have developed a close working relationship, and together work to strengthen and enhance the city of Alliance and improve the lives of its citizens.

## **MA-60 Broadband Needs of Housing occupied by Low- and Moderate-Income Households - 91.210(a)(4), 91.310(a)(2)**

### **Describe the need for broadband wiring and connections for households, including low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods.**

The following information is summarized from the Stark County HOME Consortium FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. More detailed information is available in that document.

High-speed internet access is a necessity for participation in the modern economy. Broadband accessibility can be important for both individuals and businesses, as well as for education, employment, and health care. Since the pandemic, many day-to-day activities have shifted online. In areas with excellent broadband access are at an advantage economically. Areas with limited broadband have difficulty competing for economic development projects, jobs, and new residents.

This gap between households and areas that have ready access to computers and the internet, and those who do not, is referred to as the “digital divide.” Persons without access to fast, reliable internet fall behind on opportunities for education, better paying jobs, and civic engagement.

### **Describe the need for increased competition by having more than one broadband Internet service provider serve the jurisdiction.**

According to Federal Communications Commission broadband deployment data, as of June 30, 2023 (latest release), 100% of the population of the City of Alliance has access to broadband internet with 100 Mbps download speed and 20 Mbps upload speed, which exceeds the FCC standard of 25 Mbps download speed and 3 Mbps upload speed. Three fixed broadband providers, Hughes Network, Space Exploration Technologies, and Viasat, serve 100% of the community. Two fixed broadband providers, AT&T, Inc. and Charter Communications, serve more than 90% of the “units” in the community.

## **MA-65 Hazard Mitigation - 91.210(a)(5), 91.310(a)(3)**

### **Describe the jurisdiction’s increased natural hazard risks associated with climate change.**

Countywide information in this section is summarized from the Stark County HOME Consortium FY 2024-2028 Five-Year Consolidated Plan. More detailed information is available in that document.

According to the Stark County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) 2023 Hazard Identification and Risk Analysis Study, flooding and tornadoes/severe storms are the two natural hazards most likely to occur in the county. The 2022 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan noted the most significant impact from climate change locally will be an increase in flooding (caused by excessive rainfall/snowmelt), which could lead to land subsidence and dam failures.

According to the County EMA 2020 Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), “if special assistance is needed during a disaster, requests will be coordinated with appropriate agencies. Firefighters and law enforcement will serve as first responders and assist with warning and movement to shelters of individuals/families within evacuation areas.” The EMA provides postcards that households requiring special assistance may fill out and return or submit online.

Fire departments have a county-wide mutual-aid agreement to ensure adequate material and personnel support in the event of emergencies. In 2017, the County approved funding for a multi- agency radio communications system, allowing every department or governmental entity connected to the system to communicate seamlessly.

The City of Alliance has adopted floodplain regulations, which restrict and/or prohibit uses that could create a negative impact during flooding. The City also regulates the alteration/filling of areas that accommodate/control flood waters.

The City of Alliance Engineering Department conducts municipal maintenance (e.g., street sweeping and catch basin cleaning), public education and outreach, new development and construction controls, illicit discharge control activities, monitoring and special studies, and watershed management activities, both on its own and in conjunction with the Stark Soil and Water Conservation District.

### **Describe the vulnerability to these risks of housing occupied by low- and moderate-income households based on an analysis of data, findings, and methods.**

Based on low- and moderate-income (LMI) area maps, and per conversations with EMA and other natural hazard management agencies, it appears flood-prone areas are widespread throughout Stark County and do not appear to impact vulnerable neighborhoods in particular. However, to reduce any

vulnerability to increased natural hazards for LMI-occupied housing, the SCRPC has made the LMI area maps available to EMA to utilize in future disaster planning coordination. The SCRPC will continue to collaborate with flood-control authorities and support their efforts as they work to enforce/strengthen stormwater runoff and water quality regulations to improve flooding conditions affecting vulnerable populations. The County has offered to include EMA on future CDBG and HOME workshop invitations and in meetings with local zoning inspectors to discuss public education/awareness efforts for their communities, as well as the County's stormwater-based Public Involvement/Public Education (PIPE) Committee.

# Strategic Plan

## SP-05 Overview

### Strategic Plan Overview

The FY 2024-28 Plan outlines Alliance’s five-year priorities, anticipated financial resources, partners, and programs to address the needs outlined in Needs Assessment and Market Analysis. The five-year framework is linked to the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan, which describes activities to be implemented. The annual activities and long-term goals/priorities must meet one of HUD’s statutory objectives: providing decent affordable housing, creating a suitable living environment, or expanding economic opportunities. In addition to meeting a statutory objective, HUD expects activities to reflect at least one outcome: availability/accessibility, affordability, or sustainability.

### PRIORITY NEEDS

Alliance has identified five needs for the next five years, four of which are ranked as a High Priority:

**Affordable Housing:** improve and maintain neighborhood stability through housing rehabilitation, which will ensure that housing is safe, code-compliant, and meets the needs of existing homeowners.

**Non-homeless Persons with Special Needs:** improve the condition and energy efficiency of housing and offer services to assist persons to remain in their home, particularly the elderly, frail elderly, and persons with physical disabilities.

**Non-Housing Community Development:** revitalize commercial/industrial areas with infrastructure/public facility investments and economic development programs to retain and attract residents and offer a desirable environment for businesses to invest and expand the community’s employment base.

**Homelessness:** partner with the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County to fund activities to further the goals of preventing and ending homelessness and rapidly returning people who have become homeless to housing.

**Public Housing** was identified as a Low priority need due to the existing network of agencies/organizations that assist persons via countywide systems.

### ANTICIPATED FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The City will utilize various funding sources to address priorities. The main sources will be CDBG funds as an entitlement community, and HOME funds as a Stark Housing Consortium member.

## **PARTNERS**

The City will utilize its own departments in various roles, non-profit organizations for public service activities, and public agencies for community development projects and fair housing programs, as the “institutional delivery structure” for its programs.

## **GOALS AND PROGRAMS**

Alliance has identified five goals through which programs will be implemented during the next five years:

**Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing:** focus on owner-occupied housing and implement projects to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with activities such as housing rehabilitation.

**Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods:** improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with projects such as improvements to rights-of-way, water and/or sewer lines, and/or public facilities; building code enforcement; and demolition of abandoned, blighted buildings.

**Provide Needed Public Services:** implement public service activities that maintain and improve neighborhood and household stability, such as - but not limited to - programs related to children, youth, and senior citizens, as well as health and employment. The City, through Stark County, will also provide fair housing services for landlords and tenants.

**Increase Economic Opportunities:** provide public infrastructure improvements that aid economic development; assist for-profit commercial or industrial firms with rehabilitation, removal of blighted structures or conditions in commercial districts, and/or new construction activities designed to create or retain jobs; eliminate substandard or blighted building conditions; implement downtown revitalization projects.

**Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness:** assist Alliance residents (individuals and families) experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness by funding activities and/or projects that support the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.

## **OTHER STRATEGIES**

The Strategic Plan also discusses strategies for the next five years regarding the institutional delivery structure for activities, lead-based paint hazards, and anti-poverty strategies, plus a description of procedures to monitor activities.

## HUD Statutory Objectives

- ***Providing decent affordable housing*** includes helping homeless persons obtain appropriate housing; assisting those at risk of homelessness; retaining the affordable housing stock; increasing availability of permanent housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income persons without discrimination; increasing the supply of supportive housing, including structural features and services to enable persons with special needs to live independently; or providing affordable housing that is accessible to job opportunities.
- ***Creating a suitable living environment*** involves improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; eliminating blighting influences and the deterioration of property; or increasing access to quality facilities and services;
- ***Expanding economic opportunities*** involves creating or retaining jobs that are accessible to low- and moderate-income persons; establishing, stabilizing, or expanding small businesses; making mortgage financing available to low- and moderate-income persons at reasonable rates, providing access to credit for development activities that promote long-term economic and social viability; or empowering low-income persons to achieve self-sufficiency.

## HUD Outcomes

- ***Availability/Accessibility*** activities make services, infrastructure, housing, or shelter available or accessible to low- and moderate-income people, including persons with disabilities. This includes not only physical barriers, but also making the affordable basics of daily living available and accessible to low- and moderate-income people.
- ***Affordability*** activities provide affordability for low- and moderate-income people. This can include the creation or maintenance of affordable housing, basic infrastructure hook-ups, or services such as transportation or day care.
- ***Sustainability*** activities improve communities or neighborhoods, making them livable or viable by providing benefit to persons of low- and moderate-incomes or by removing slums or blight.

## SP-10 Geographic Priorities - 91.415, 91.215(a)(1)

### Geographic Area

Table 12 - Geographic Priority Areas

1	Area Name:	Citywide
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Other
	Other Revital Description:	Other
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	
	Identify the needs in this target area.	
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	
2	Area Name:	Target Areas 1 through 4
	Area Type:	Local Target area
	Other Target Area Description:	
	HUD Approval Date:	
	% of Low/ Mod:	
	Revital Type:	Comprehensive
	Other Revital Description:	
	Identify the neighborhood boundaries for this target area.	please refer to narratives and maps.
	Include specific housing and commercial characteristics of this target area.	please refer to narratives.
	How did your consultation and citizen participation process help you to identify this neighborhood as a target area?	please refer to narratives.
	Identify the needs in this target area.	please refer to narratives.
	What are the opportunities for improvement in this target area?	please refer to narratives.
	Are there barriers to improvement in this target area?	please refer to narratives.

## **General Allocation Priorities**

Describe the basis for allocating investments geographically within the state

The City of Alliance has identified four Priority Areas for allocation of CDBG funds. These “Target Areas” are areas where geographically targeted revitalization efforts are carried out through multiple activities in a concentrated and coordinated manner.

## **Boundaries**

The target areas abut one another and are located in the northeast portion of the city.

## **Neighborhood Characteristics and Needs**

The methodology for the creation of boundaries was a) the percentage of low- and moderate-income individuals in each area, b) the age and condition of housing units, and c) the age and condition of public infrastructure.

Citywide, 57.60% of all persons are low- and moderate-income (HUD, Entitlement Year 2023, CDBG Entitlement Grantees, using ACS 2011-15 data as required by HUD). Although Census block group boundaries do not always match exactly with Target Area boundaries (Census boundaries are sometimes adjusted by the U.S. Census Bureau), overall about two-thirds of persons in the four Target Areas are low- to moderate-income. The highest percentage of low- and moderate-income residents occurs in Target Area 3 (86%) and Target Area 1 (73%).

The four Target Areas include about 40% of all Alliance residents, but about one-half of all low- and moderate-income persons citywide.

The Target Areas represent older neighborhoods, with a combination of buildings dating from the second half of the 19th century through the early 20th century. Many of the buildings have multiple exterior repair needs.

Finally, because the Target Areas consist of older building stock, infrastructure such as water and sewer lines are also older. This aging infrastructure results in greater repair needs and expensive replacement projects.

## **Opportunities for Improvement**

The City’s goal is to coordinate funds, such as CDBG funds and municipal money, into planned areas to maximize impact and improvements. For example, housing rehabilitation, code enforcement, and street improvements are coordinated in an effort to build viable neighborhoods. In addition, CDBG public service grant recipients should provide services to residents of one or more of the four Target Areas.

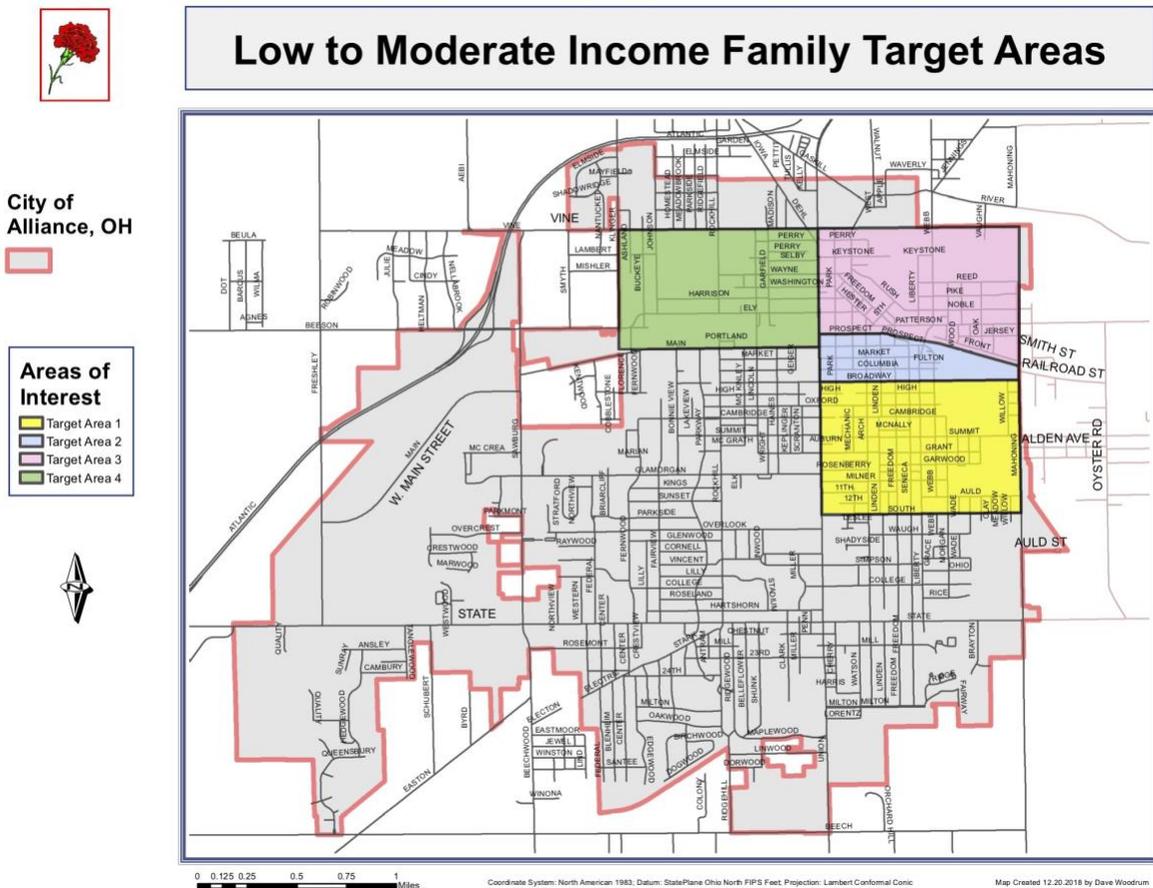
Applications for public services are reviewed by a committee and scored on a variety of criteria, including the geographic location of the proposed project.

### Barriers to Improvement

The greatest barrier to improvement is insufficient funds, both through CDBG and local sources, to address neighborhood needs.

### Consultation and Citizen Process Tie In

Neighborhood needs are confirmed as updated housing and socio-economic data is released by HUD. The Target Areas are discussed at public meetings to solicit citizen input. In addition, public services providers confirm that significant numbers of households from the Target Areas continue to receive services.



City of Alliance Map with Target Areas



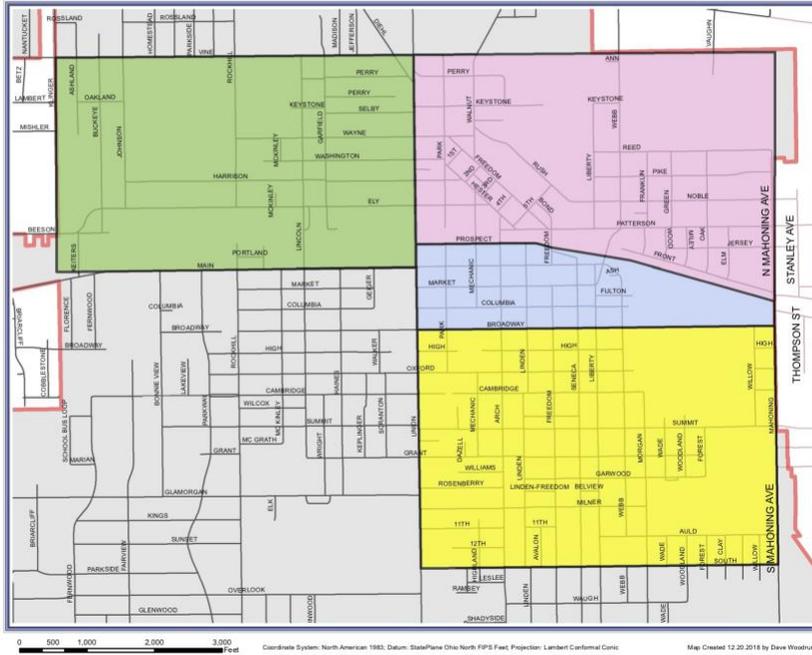
# Low to Moderate Income Family Target Areas

City of Alliance, OH



Areas of Interest

- Target Area 1
- Target Area 2
- Target Area 3
- Target Area 4



Target Area Map



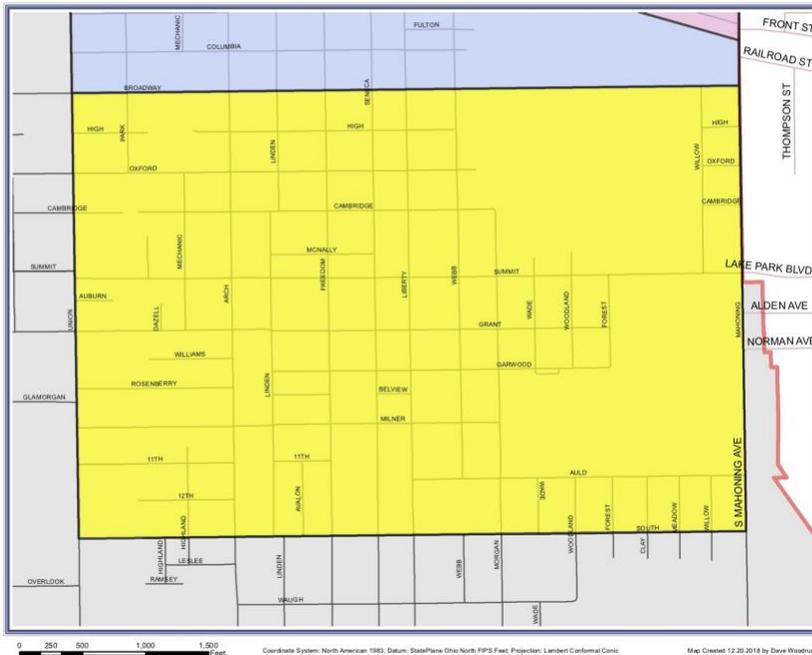
# Low to Moderate Income Family Target Areas

City of Alliance, OH



Areas of Interest

- Target Area 1
- Target Area 2
- Target Area 3
- Target Area 4



Target Area 1



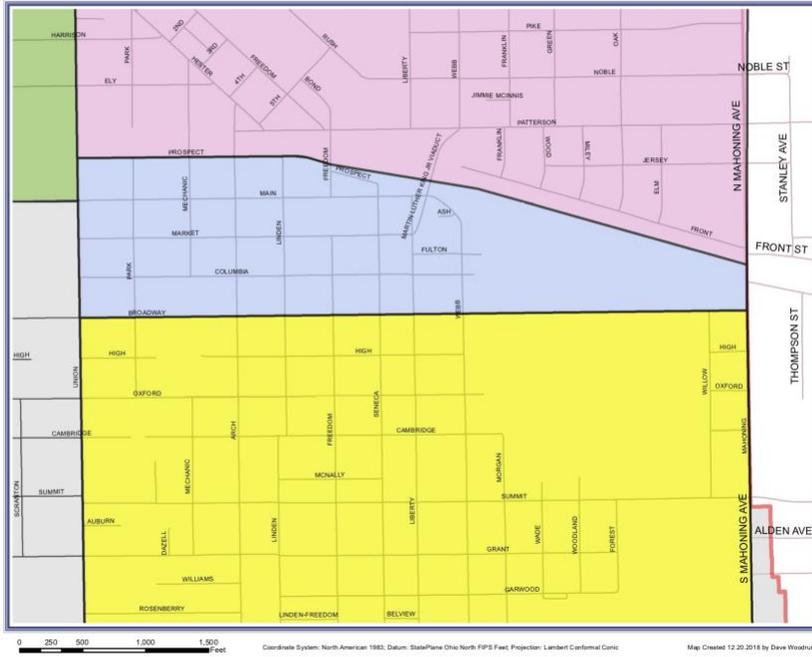
## Low to Moderate Income Family Target Areas

City of Alliance, OH



### Areas of Interest

- Target Area 1
- Target Area 2
- Target Area 3
- Target Area 4



Target Area 2



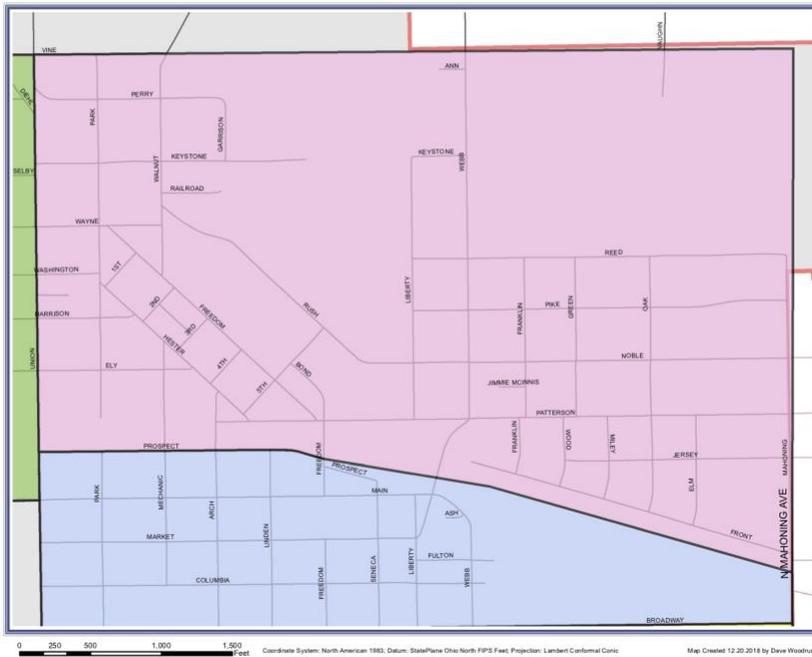
## Low to Moderate Income Family Target Areas

City of Alliance, OH



### Areas of Interest

- Target Area 1
- Target Area 2
- Target Area 3
- Target Area 4



Target Area 3



# Low to Moderate Income Family Target Areas

City of Alliance, OH



## Areas of Interest

- Target Area 1
- Target Area 2
- Target Area 3
- Target Area 4



## Target Area 4

## SP-25 Priority Needs - 91.415, 91.215(a)(2)

### Priority Needs

Table 13 – Priority Needs Summary

1	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Affordable Housing</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Middle Large Families Families with Children Elderly
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Planning and Administration
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Alliance will prioritize a housing rehabilitation program, which is important for neighborhood stability. Rehabilitation activities ensure that housing is safe, code-compliant, and meets the needs of existing homeowners.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	A High Level priority was chosen for rehabilitation activities in order to maintain and improve neighborhood stability. Weatherization work is available for income-eligible owners and renters through the State of Ohio's Home Weatherization Assistance Program, which lowers overall housing costs.
2	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide

	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Planning and Administration Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Alliance has rated the elderly, frail elderly, and persons with physical disabilities as a priority for housing assistance. The City's housing rehabilitation program improves the condition and energy efficiency of housing, as well as services to assist persons to remain in an independent living situation.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	A High Priority level was chosen because the elderly and persons with physical disabilities are among the most vulnerable segments of the population.  The remaining special populations have programs and services that originate with other public agencies and nonprofit organizations. The City will consider certifications of consistency for applications by other entities for Federal assistance.
3	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Non-Housing Community Development</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Non-housing Community Development
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Increase Economic Opportunities Planning and Administration Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Description</b>	As opportunities occur, and funding is available, the City of Alliance has rated infrastructure needs and economic development as a priority for funding. As an older community, Alliance reinvests in its public infrastructure and facilities such as streets, water and sewer lines, and parks/recreation facilities to improve public safety and public services. Alliance also strives to offer a desirable environment for business employees. The City works creatively with businesses to maintain and expand the community's employment base.  The City of Alliance will also utilize funds to provide code enforcement services and demolish deteriorated and vacant buildings.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	

4	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Non-Housing Community Development - Public Services</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Extremely Low Low Moderate Large Families Families with Children Elderly Public Housing Residents Elderly Frail Elderly Persons with Physical Disabilities Victims of Domestic Violence
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Planning and Administration Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Alliance intends to fund a variety of public services in order to improve the quality of life for residents.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	A High Level priority was chosen based upon consultation with local organizations and community needs identified in the annual public service CDBG grant application process. Socioeconomic issues are summarized in NA-05 – Needs Assessment Overview of this document. See also various sections in the Consolidated Plan prepared by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission.
5	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Homelessness</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	High
	<b>Population</b>	Chronic Homelessness Individuals Families with Children Mentally Ill Chronic Substance Abuse veterans Persons with HIV/AIDS Victims of Domestic Violence Unaccompanied Youth

	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	Planning and Administration Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness
	<b>Description</b>	Programs to assist homeless persons are administered on a countywide level through the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC). The City of Alliance is part of the Continuum of Care through public service funding of organizations such as the Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter, as well as funding to support the Continuum of Care Homeless Hotline.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	A High Priority level was chosen because persons who are homeless or are at-risk of homelessness are among the most vulnerable segments of the population. The City of Alliance coordinates with the HCCSC and its partner agencies and organizations.
6	<b>Priority Need Name</b>	<b>Public Housing</b>
	<b>Priority Level</b>	Low
	<b>Population</b>	Public Housing Residents
	<b>Geographic Areas Affected</b>	Citywide
	<b>Associated Goals</b>	
	<b>Description</b>	There are two public housing facilities in Alliance. They are administered by the Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority (SMHA). The City of Alliance does not intend to fund activities directly related to these housing units. Alliance residents can be assisted through the countywide public housing system administered by SMHA.
	<b>Basis for Relative Priority</b>	A Low Priority level was chosen because this housing need is addressed by the SMHA on a countywide basis.

**SP-35 Anticipated Resources - 91.420(b), 91.215(a)(4), 91.220(c)(1,2)**

**Introduction**

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2024-2028 must identify the federal, state, local, and private resources expected to be available to the City of Alliance to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Strategic Plan (**Table 14**). The City of Alliance is a direct entitlement community for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Alliance receives an annual allocation of Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD for CDBG.

Alliance is also a member of a Consortium through which it receives funds from the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program. The Consortium members are the Stark County Urban County and the cities of Alliance and Massillon. Information about the HOME Program and annual funding availability to the Consortium members is contained in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2024-2028 prepared by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission.

**Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	- Acquisition - Admin and Planning - Economic Development - Housing - Public Improvements - Public Services	632,148	0	22,000	654,148	2,500,000	The Expected Amount Available Remainder of Consolidated Plan is \$625,000 multiplied by four, representing Year 2 through Year 5. Annual allocations are a conservative estimate based on recent allocations.

**Table 14 - Anticipated Resources**

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

Public service activities, project-based allocations, and building improvements resulting from code enforcement administration leverage both private dollars and/or volunteer donations of time and/or money. Road, sewer, and right-of-way improvements may receive funding through the CDBG program, which may be supplemented with other local, state, and/or federal funds through project partnerships.

**If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the state that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City of Alliance park and recreation facilities may be maintained, repaired, or modernized in order to increase the livability and sustainability of particular neighborhoods. Publicly owned land (roads, rights-of-way, sidewalks) may be improved above and below the surface to remedy infrastructure needs and to improve public access, safety, and accessibility.

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank) may hold vacant parcels and/or vacant buildings in Alliance. Vacant parcels may be sold or become part of the Side Lot Disposition Program. Properties with buildings may be rehabilitated or demolished, after a case-by-case analysis, in order to improve the sustainability of housing in particular neighborhoods.

**Funding Contingency Plan**

In the event that there is:

A difference (increase or decrease) between the estimated FY 2024 CDBG Entitlement Grant funding listed in this document compared to the actual HUD allocations to be announced; or

A difference in the estimated and actual amount of carryover funds and/or program income from FY 2023 to FY 2024;

The budgets for activities identified in the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan will be increased/decreased proportionally in relation to the overall change in funding.

## SP-40 Institutional Delivery Structure - 91.415, 91.215(k)

Explain the institutional structure through which the jurisdiction will carry out its consolidated plan including private industry, non-profit organizations, and public institutions.

Responsible Entity	Responsible Entity Type	Role	Geographic Area Served
City of Alliance	Government	Economic Development Homelessness Non-homeless special needs Ownership Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	Jurisdiction
Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness	Jurisdiction
Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation	Regional organization	Ownership Planning Rental	Jurisdiction
Stark County Regional Planning Commission	Government	Economic Development Ownership Planning neighborhood improvements public facilities public services	Jurisdiction
Stark Metropolitan Housing Authority	PHA	Public Housing	Jurisdiction
lending institutions	Private Industry	Economic Development Ownership Rental	Region
public service providers	Non-profit organizations	Homelessness public services	Region

**Table 15 - Institutional Delivery Structure**

### Assess of Strengths and Gaps in the Institutional Delivery System

As stated in the HUD Desk Guide instructions, the entries in **Table 15** represent the lead agency and other entities that will have a major role in administering funding activities currently and potentially during the next five years, rather than a list of all potential sub-recipients that might occur over time.

The institutional structure through which the City of Alliance carries out its affordable and supportive housing strategy consists of public sector agencies, non-profit organizations and the private sector.

The City has qualified partners capable of carrying out their activities. There are no major gaps in the institutional delivery system.

Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) is the lead jurisdiction in the HOME Consortium that includes Stark County, Massillon, and Alliance. SCRPC has a strong history of administration of the CDBG and HOME Consortium programs, utilizing this agency, as well as other public and private agencies, including Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDO's).

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County has strengths through its Coordinated Entry system, as well as the collaboration among its providers and stakeholders (Stark County FY 2024-28 Five-Year Consolidated Plan).

**Availability of services targeted to homeless persons and persons with HIV and mainstream services**

Homelessness Prevention Services	Available in the Community	Targeted to Homeless	Targeted to People with HIV
<b>Homelessness Prevention Services</b>			
Counseling/Advocacy	X	X	X
Legal Assistance	X	X	X
Mortgage Assistance	X	X	X
Rental Assistance	X	X	X
Utilities Assistance	X	X	X
<b>Street Outreach Services</b>			
Law Enforcement	X	X	X
Mobile Clinics	X	X	X
Other Street Outreach Services	X	X	X
<b>Supportive Services</b>			
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	X	X	X
Child Care	X	X	X
Education	X	X	X
Employment and Employment Training	X	X	X
Healthcare	X	X	X
HIV/AIDS	X	X	X
Life Skills	X	X	X
Mental Health Counseling	X	X	X
Transportation	X	X	X

**Table 16 - Homeless Prevention Services Summary**

**Describe how the service delivery system including, but not limited to, the services listed above meet the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth)**

In **Table 16**, “Available in the Community,” “Targeted to Homeless,” and “Targeted to People with HIV” have been answered based on a countywide response, rather than a response for a single jurisdiction.

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County serves all communities in Stark County. The CoC coordinates a network of public, private, and non-profit agencies that facilitate and/or provide, either directly or indirectly, assisted housing, health services, and/or social services to persons in Stark County who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness, including chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, unaccompanied youth, and persons with HIV.

SCRPC provided additional information in their FY 2024-2028 Five-Year HUD Consolidated Plan concerning the extent of service availability:

Stark County’s CoC provides a full spectrum of housing and services from homeless prevention assistance to rapid rehousing and permanent housing. All CoC partner agencies that provide housing/shelter offer wrap-around services such as case management and linkage with other services including health services, counseling, budgeting assistance, education, life skills training, meals, mainstream services through Job & Family Services, mental health case management, and drug/alcohol abuse treatment. Homeless participants are offered services appropriate to their individual needs and are encouraged to engage in the development of an individualized service plan that is created by the provider and the participant working together. Service plans are modified as needed with input from the participant. The success of the various programs is measured by the participant’s ability to maintain housing, exit to permanent housing, increase employment and non-employment income, increase non-cash benefits, obtain health insurance, and to not return to the homeless system once exited. The CoC supports collaboration with entities, particularly education and children’s service systems, that are most likely to encounter households with children who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. This collaboration includes educating teachers, homeless liaisons, counselors, and other direct providers in how to recognize indicators of homelessness, how to engage parents, and how to make referrals for assistance to connect families with appropriate services.

**Describe the strengths and gaps of the service delivery system for special needs population and persons experiencing homelessness, including, but not limited to, the services listed above**

SCRPC provided additional information in their FY 2024-2028 Five-Year HUD Consolidated Plan concerning the strengths and gaps in the service delivery system:

Stark County has many strengths in its service delivery system, such as a coordinated intake process through the Homeless Hotline or Homeless Navigation. The Hotline is managed by the same staff that run the County's HMIS. This direct connection improves data collection and analysis for tracking trends. The Hotline operates 24 hours/day and maintains a current listing of available shelter beds. The Hotline was recently expanded to include an assessment tool in which special service needs are identified, allowing for more appropriate referrals.

Identified gaps include the need for more affordable rental housing, more subsidized housing, more special needs housing, more homeless-related housing (to help reduce the different waiting lists), and mental health services for persons who are not at the more severe levels of dysfunction or who have stabilized and then are graduated out of case management, becoming vulnerable to relapse. The HCCSC is working on a closer relationship with law enforcement, education and employment/employment training programs in order to direct services specifically towards homeless persons. In addition, there is limited services in the following areas, which needs to be increased: healthcare including non-traditional delivery sites, child care that is not restricted to TANF regulations, and greater countywide transportation.

The CoC has determined that there is a need for stronger collaboration with all agencies providing homeless prevention services and their funders. Early identification of root causes of homelessness will help connect clients to all necessary resources and decrease the occurrences of repeat calls for prevention or homeless services assistance shortly after receiving emergency assistance. There is also an identified need to more quickly transition people from PSH to affordable housing as part of a carefully coordinated individualized plan.

### **Provide a summary of the strategy for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system for carrying out a strategy to address priority needs**

SCRPC provided additional information in their FY 2024-2028 Five-Year HUD Consolidated Plan concerning strategies for overcoming gaps in the institutional structure and service delivery system:

To overcome gaps, residents need more knowledge of how to access programs after connecting with homeless navigation. Additional supportive services would be advantageous for individuals and families that are diverted from the homeless system, as well as individuals and families that are prioritized for Permanent Supportive Housing or Rapid Rehousing. Individuals and families could benefit from more support services while searching for housing, and after they are housed, such as alcohol/drug treatment and counseling, mental health case management, education services, employment and retention services, financial literacy and budget counseling, health and medical services, and childcare services. By supporting various public service programs throughout the duration of the Consolidated Plan, the County hopes to close service gaps.

## SP-45 Goals - 91.415, 91.215(a)(4)

### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing	2024	2028	Affordable Housing	Target Areas 1 through 4	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs	CDBG: \$1,074,500	Homeowner Housing Added: 5 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 550 Household Housing Unit
2	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$1,086,250	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 3000 Persons Assisted  Buildings Demolished: 50 Buildings  Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 1500 Household Housing Unit
3	Provide Needed Public Services	2024	2028	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services	CDBG: \$439,110	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2800 Persons Assisted  Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Increase Economic Opportunities	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$2,500	Other: 5 Other
5	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness	2024	2028	Homeless	Citywide	Homelessness	CDBG: \$35,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 1000 Persons Assisted
6	Planning and Administration	2024	2028	Planning and Administration	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide	Affordable Housing Homelessness Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services	CDBG: \$516,788	Other: 5 Other

Table 17 – Goals Summary

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will administer projects to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with activities such as housing rehabilitation.

2	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will administer activities to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with projects such as improvements to rights-of-way, water and/or sewer lines, and/or public facilities; and building code enforcement.  The City will fund activities to demolish abandoned, blighted buildings, as well as buildings that must be demolished due to emergency situations, such as fire damage.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Provide Needed Public Services</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will focus on public service activities that maintain and improve neighborhood and household stability, such as - but not limited to - programs related to children, youth, and senior citizens, as well as health, nutrition, and employment.  The City will also provide fair housing services for landlords and tenants. The City contracts with the Stark County Fair Housing Department for the implementation of fair housing activities in Alliance.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Increase Economic Opportunities</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will provide public infrastructure improvements that aid economic development, as well as assist for-profit commercial or industrial firms with rehabilitation and/or new construction activities designed to create or retain jobs. The City will also provide code enforcement for commercial buildings and eliminate substandard or blighted building conditions. The City will also implement downtown revitalization projects.  Annually, the City will fund memberships for Heritage Ohio and other memberships regarding historic preservation. This activity is reflected in Goal Outcome Indicator Line 23. Other economic development activities are unknown at this time - the start of the Five-Year Plan - and are not specified in the Goal Outcome Indicator section.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will assist Alliance residents (individuals and families) experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness by funding activities and/or projects that will be administered by the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Planning and Administration</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will utilize CDBG funding for administrative activities, including the overall management, coordination, reporting, and record-keeping requirements of the CDBG program.

**Estimate the number of extremely low-income, low-income, and moderate-income families to whom the jurisdiction will provide affordable housing as defined by HOME 91.315(b)(2)**

It is estimated that the City of Alliance, administered through the HOME Consortium in Stark County, will assist the following number of extremely low-income, low-income, and/or moderate-income households with housing rehabilitation activities: 4 households annually (20 households over five years).

## **SP-65 Lead-based Paint Hazards - 91.415, 91.215(i)**

### **Actions to address LBP hazards and increase access to housing without LBP hazards**

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) is one of the primary points of contact in Alliance for issues concerning lead-based paint hazards. ODH, through the Ohio Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, provides public health lead investigations, case management, local program funding, education, and lead data. The program addresses the needs of lead-poisoned children from birth through six years (72 months) of age. The program assists family members, medical care providers and other community members to reduce and prevent lead poisoning. The program is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for childhood lead poisoning prevention efforts in Ohio.

### **How are the actions listed above integrated into housing policies and procedures?**

Integrating the lead-based paint issue into housing programs occurs several ways. The ODH lead program has funding to remove lead paint hazards from homes built before 1978. This program is available statewide, with the goal to help protect families with Medicaid eligible children and/or Medicaid eligible pregnant women against the dangers of lead paint hazards.

As part of its housing rehabilitation program, the Stark County Regional Planning Commission (SCRPC) complies with HUD's Lead Safe Housing Rule. The SCRPC utilizes a Housing Rehabilitation Program Guideline Manual for all housing rehabilitation projects using CDBG or HOME funds, including projects that occur in Alliance. The manual includes a section regarding lead-based paint that requires a visual inspection for lead paint on all homes built prior to 1978. To be eligible for program funding, the property must be brought up to Residential Rehab Standards. Peeling paint must be included in the work write-up and corrected. SCRPC requires contractors to be licensed in the State of Ohio to address lead-based paint hazards. Once work is completed, a certified lead inspector tests and analyzes the work area and issues a lead clearance. If a unit does not pass inspection, it must be re-cleaned and re-tested until it does pass.

SCRPC also distributes to clients an Environmental Protection Agency brochure on lead-based paint. Created for residents and contractors, the brochure discusses types of lead-based paint hazards and how to improve home safety.

## **SP-70 Anti-Poverty Strategy - 91.415, 91.215(j)**

### **Jurisdiction Goals, Programs and Policies for reducing the number of Poverty-Level Families**

“Poverty level” is defined as an annual income level, adjusted for family size and number of children. In 2024, a 1-person household is considered in poverty if annual income is below \$15,060; a 3-person family is considered in poverty if annual income is below \$25,820 (<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>).

With such a low level of income, the method to reduce the number of families living below the poverty line is to create additional employment opportunities.

Partnering with other agencies and governments, Alliance has the opportunity to use, or combine, various funding programs for job creation and retention projects, such as CDBG funds from HUD, State of Ohio programs, county funds, private sector financing, and private sector equity. The sources of funds often vary based upon the type, size, and location of the project. Projects can range from large investments with regional impact down to small projects that help revitalize local retail or industrial space and employment in an immediate area.

#### **Education and Training**

A prerequisite for a higher paying job to move families above the poverty level is appropriate education and/or job training. Within the Stark County area there are numerous organizations that provide education, vocational training, and job training, such as Goodwill Industries of Greater Cleveland and East Central Ohio, Inc., Ohio Development Services Agency, OhioMeansJobs – Stark and Tuscarawas Counties (OMJ), Ohio Technical Center, and Stark State College.

These entities are described in more detail in MA-45 – Non-Housing Community Development Assets.

The City of Alliance provides public service agencies with funding to increase education services and job and life skill training programs. Through this funding, the City addresses a priority need to establish a skilled workforce with laborers and technical workers to increase economic opportunity for both workers and business owners.

#### **Financial Literacy**

Increasing the ability of low- and moderate-income families to maximize their income is important. A number of local organizations work to improve citizen’s financial literacy and money management skills, as well as inform residents of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a refundable federal income tax credit for low- to moderate-income working households.

## **Public Transportation**

Massillon and other jurisdictions work with the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (Stark County Area Transportation Study (SCATS)) to maintain and increase the supply of convenient, accessible public transportation options essential for people to obtain and retain employment and access educational and training opportunities.

## **How are the Jurisdiction poverty reducing goals, programs, and policies coordinated with this affordable housing plan**

The City of Alliance has the opportunity to use combinations of its HUD-related funding, State of Ohio funding, local public funds and programs, along with philanthropic and private sector dollars, to provide affordable housing programs to reduce housing cost burden, which is frequent among households whose income is near the poverty line. For example, rehabilitation work, weatherization programs, and utility discounts based on household income reduce overall housing costs and result in having more money for other necessities or to help pay toward educational programs or training.

Administratively, the City applies applicable federal regulations that create economic opportunity and sustain a living wage, such as Davis-Bacon, minority and women business equal opportunity compliance, and Section 3 of the National Affordable Housing Act. Section 3 sets goals for the participation of qualified low- and moderate-income businesses and workers for HUD-funded construction projects.

More broadly, the City participates in regional efforts that strive to prevent or reduce poverty. For example, the Stark Economic and Development Board (SEDB) represents the cities and townships in Stark County as an economic development advocate, focusing on business expansion and attraction efforts. SEBD efforts include business attraction, business financing, real estate development, zoning and regulatory compliance, funding for environmental remediation, private equity financing, and the administration of the Stark County Port Authority.

## **SP-80 Monitoring - 91.230**

**Describe the standards and procedures that the jurisdiction will use to monitor activities carried out in furtherance of the plan and will use to ensure long-term compliance with requirements of the programs involved, including minority business outreach and the comprehensive planning requirements**

The City of Alliance's Monitoring Plan is a mechanism to review performance over time and evaluate compliance of sub-recipients receiving CDBG funds with applicable laws and regulations.

Programs and projects have direct oversight by the City of Alliance. Compliance with federal guidelines, achievement of goals and objectives, and data collection is the responsibility of the Department of Planning and Development. Sub-recipients and the City of Alliance sign contracts concerning the implementation of activities, and the document specifies the responsibilities of all parties.

To ensure funds are expended in a timely manner for the CDBG program, the City: 1) considers sub-recipient capacity relative to the proposed activity to assess timely activity completion; 2) Incorporates project mile stones and drawdown schedules into sub-recipient contracts; and 3) works with sub-recipients to take corrective measures if activities are not being implemented in a timely manner.

Activities are monitored on an ongoing basis. Sub-recipients report monthly how CDBG funds were expended and how many clients benefited from the use of the funds. The Planning and Development Department releases funding after verification that the expenditure meets CDBG program and sub-recipient contract requirements. Informal and formal monitoring visits are conducted by the Department of Planning and Development. Performance of all funded agencies is reviewed on an annual basis.

The Monitoring Plan also allows the Planning and Development Department to provide technical assistance to help sub-recipients comply with applicable laws and regulations, improve technical skills, and remain current on relevant CDBG regulations. Additionally, monitoring helps to highlight accomplishments and best practices.

Each Annual Action Plan is also reviewed as part of the City's annual Community Development Block Grant citizen participation process. Citizens are also provided the opportunity to comment on the City's Comprehensive Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), a document prepared as part of the City's annual Community Development Block Grant performance program.

## Expected Resources

### AP-15 Expected Resources - 91.420(b), 91.220(c)(1,2)

#### Introduction

The Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2024-2028 must identify the federal, state, local, and private resources expected to be available to the City of Alliance to address priority needs and specific objectives identified in the Strategic Plan (**Table 14**). The City of Alliance is a direct entitlement community for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Alliance receives an annual allocation of Federal funding from the U.S. Department of HUD for CDBG.

Alliance is also a member of a Consortium through which it receives funds from the HOME Investment Partnership (HOME) Program. The Consortium members are the Stark County Urban County and the cities of Alliance and Massillon. Information about the HOME Program and annual funding availability to the Consortium members is contained in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan for 2024-2028 prepared by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission.

**Anticipated Resources**

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of Con Plan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	632,148	0	22,000	654,148	2,500,000	The Expected Amount Available Remainder of Consolidated Plan is \$625,000 multiplied by four, representing Year 2 through Year 5. Annual allocations are a conservative estimate based on recent allocations.

**Table 18 - Expected Resources – Priority Table**

**Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied**

Public service activities, project-based allocations, and building improvements resulting from code enforcement administration leverage both private dollars and/or volunteer donations of time and/or money.

Road, sewer, and right-of-way improvements may receive funding through the CDBG program, which may be supplemented with other local, state, and/or federal funds through project partnerships.

**If appropriate, describe publicly owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan**

The City of Alliance park and recreation facilities may be maintained, repaired, or modernized in order to increase the livability and sustainability of particular neighborhoods.

Publicly owned land (roads, rights-of-way, sidewalks) may be improved above and below the surface to remedy infrastructure needs and to improve public access, safety, and accessibility.

The Stark County Land Reutilization Corporation (Land Bank) may hold vacant parcels and/or vacant buildings in Alliance. Vacant parcels may be sold or become part of the Side Lot Disposition Program. Properties with buildings may be rehabilitated or demolished, after a case-by-case analysis, in order to improve the sustainability of housing in particular neighborhoods.

**Funding Contingency Plan**

In the event that there is:

A difference (increase or decrease) between the estimated FY 2024 CDBG Entitlement Grant funding listed in this document compared to the actual HUD allocations to be announced; or

A difference in the estimated and actual amount of carryover funds and/or program income from FY 2023 to FY 2024;

The budgets for activities identified in the FY 2024 Annual Action Plan will be increased/decreased proportionally in relation to the overall change in funding.

## Annual Goals and Objectives

### AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives - 91.420, 91.220(c)(3)&(e)

#### Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing	2024	2028	Affordable Housing	Target Areas 1 through 4	Affordable Housing	CDBG: \$150,000	Public service activities for Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 200 Households Assisted  Homeowner Housing Added: 1 Household Housing Unit  Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 110 Household Housing Unit
2	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Areas 1 through 4  Citywide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$185,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 600 Persons Assisted  Buildings Demolished: 10 Buildings  Housing Code Enforcement/Foreclosed Property Care: 300 Household Housing Unit
3	Provide Needed Public Services	2024	2028	Non-Homeless Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development	Citywide	Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs	CDBG: \$65,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 2500 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
4	Increase Economic Opportunities	2024	2028	Non-Housing Community Development	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide	Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$55,000	Other: 500 Other
5	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness	2024	2028	Homeless	Citywide	Homelessness	CDBG: \$25,000	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 400 Persons Assisted  Overnight/Emergency Shelter/Transitional Housing Beds added: 300 Beds
6	Planning and Administration	2024	2028	Planning and Administration	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide	Affordable Housing  Homelessness  Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs  Non-Housing Community Development	CDBG: \$120,000	Other: 1 Other

**Table 19 – Goals Summary**

### Goal Descriptions

1	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will administer projects to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with activities such as housing rehabilitation.

2	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will administer activities to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with projects such as improvements to right of ways, and/or sewer lines, and/or public facilities, and building code enforcement.  The City will fund activities to demolish abandoned, blighted buildings, as well as buildings that must be demolished due to emergency situations such as fire damage.
3	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Provide Needed Public Services</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will focus on public service activities that maintain and improve neighborhood and household stability, such as but not limited to, programs related to children.  The City will also provide fair housing services for both landlords and tenants. The City contracts with the Stark County Fair Housing Department for implementation of fair housing activities in Alliance.
4	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Increase Economic Opportunities</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will provide code enforcement administration for commercial buildings.  The City may implement the following types of projects which will increase economic opportunities: provide public infrastructure improvements to assist economic development, assist for-profit commercial or industrial companies with rehabilitation, removal of blighted structures or conditions in commercial districts, and/or new construction activities designed to create or retain jobs; eliminate substandard or blighted building conditions; implement downtown improvement or revitalization activities. The City may implement these types of projects using non-federal funds.
5	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will assist Alliance residents both individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness by funding activities and/or projects that will be administered by the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.
6	<b>Goal Name</b>	<b>Planning and Administration</b>
	<b>Goal Description</b>	The City will utilize CDBG funding for administrative activities, including the overall management, coordination, reporting, and record-keeping requirements of the CDBG program. The City will also utilize CDBG funding for the provision of fair housing services and activities.

## **AP-35 Projects - 91.420, 91.220(d)**

### **Introduction**

The Consolidated Plan sets goals and strategies to be achieved over the FY 2024 – 2028 period and identifies a list of funding priorities. The five (5) Consolidated Plan goals represent high priority needs for the City and serve as the basis for FY-2024 programs and activities identified in the Annual Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan goals are listed below in no order:

- 1) **Improve, Maintain and Expand Affordable Housing:** The City will administer projects to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with activities such as housing rehabilitation.
  
- 2) **Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods:** The City will administer activities to improve the physical condition, health, and safety of residential neighborhoods with projects such as improvements to right of ways, and/or sewer lines, and/or public facilities, and building code enforcement. The City will fund activities to demolish abandoned, blighted buildings, as well as buildings that must be demolished due to emergency situations such as fire damage.
  
- 3) **Provided Needed Public Service:** The City will focus on public service activities that maintain and improve neighborhood and household stability, such as but not limited to, programs related to children. The City will also provide fair housing services for landlord and tenants. The City contracts with the Stark County Fair Housing Department for implementation of fair housing activities in Alliance.
  
- 4) **Increase Economic Opportunities:** The City will provide code enforcement administration for commercial buildings. The City may implement the following types of projects which will increase economic opportunities: provide public infrastructure improvements to assist economic development, assist for-profit commercial or industrial companies with rehabilitation, removal of blighted structures or conditions in commercial districts, and/or new construction activities designed to create or retain jobs; eliminate substandard or blighted building conditions; implement downtown improvement or revitalization activities. The City may implement these types of projects using non-federal funds.
  
- 5) **Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness:** The City will assist Alliance residents (individual and families) experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness by funding activities and/or projects that will be administered by the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County.

Based on these goals, the table below summarizes the priorities and specific objectives that the City of Alliance aims to achieve during the Annual Action Plan for FY 2024.

#	Project Name
1	Alliance Area Domestic Violence
2	Code Enforcement
3	Administration
4	Demolition Program
5	Fair Housing
6	Historic Preservation
7	Housing Rehabilitation
8	Alliance Community Pantry
9	ECEA (SPARK)
10	Stark County Mental Health
11	YWCA Navigators
12	YWCA Employment Assistance
13	FEMI - Youth/Infant Supplies
14	Emergency Board Up
15	Beacon Charitable Pharmacy
16	StarkFresh
17	Tri-County Jobs for Ohio's Graduates
18	Hammer & Nails
19	YWCA Exterior Preservation
20	Habitat for Humanity 2024 - House #13
21	FEMI - Safety Repairs

**Table 20 – Project Information**

**Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs**

In accordance with the Consolidated Plan, CDBG and HOME funds are distributed using the following allocation priorities:

CDBG: Projects and programs are selected in accordance with the policies and procedures outlined in the Consolidated Plan FY-2024-2028. Please refer to section AP-35 above for further details.

HOME: HOME funds are dedicated to housing activities that typically preserve or create affordable housing. Uses may include rehabilitation, repair, and new construction. The intent of the HOME program is to provide safe and affordable housing to lower-income households, expand the capacity of nonprofit housing providers, strengthen the ability of state and local governments to provide housing, and leverage private sector participation in housing projects.

# AP-38 Project Summary

## Project Summary Information

<b>1</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Alliance Area Domestic Violence</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$9,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Education Service Project is a service-oriented activity focusing on domestic violence education, employment training, financial literacy, tutoring children, and adult job preparation. The Education Service Project impacts the health and well-being of clients served through increased knowledge and program services. This service is unduplicated in the City of Alliance. The funds will be utilized to pay for a portion of the salary of the Educational Services Coordinator.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number of adult and child victims of domestic violence the proposed activity will benefit is between 300-399 in the low to moderate income level. This project will educate the community on domestic violence awareness. As domestic violence is not limited to low to moderate families, all in need will be assisted.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The Alliance Area Domestic Violence Shelter adheres to a strict confidentiality policy as mandated by the Family Violence Prevention Services Act, Victims of Crime Act and the Violence Against Women Act to protect the victims of domestic violence serviced by their agency. Many of the victims served come from all four (4) target areas. The physical location of the shelter is kept confidential to protect the victims and their families.
<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Education Service Project is a service-oriented activity focusing on domestic violence education, employment training, financial literacy, tutoring children, and adult job preparation. The Education Service Project impacts the health and well-being of clients served through increased knowledge and program services. This service is unduplicated in the City.	

<b>2</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Code Enforcement</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$110,000
	<b>Description</b>	The City of Alliance is dedicated to protecting the interest, health, safety, and general welfare of the public. Code Enforcement ensures housing for all citizens within the City of Alliance complies with the safe and suitable housing codes. Alliance City Council has adopted ordinances for planning, zoning, building health and housing to promote growth within the community, protect property values and encourage the best use of land within the city.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Estimated number of families that would benefit is approximately 200 low to moderate income residents in all four (4) target areas.
	<b>Location Description</b>	
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities include enforcement of the City ordinances in the Alliance community through various measures including housing ratings and violation processes. Corrections of Code violations will follow Federal Regulation 570.202.
<b>3</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Administration</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Planning and Administration
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services Homelessness

	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$126,429
	<b>Description</b>	Administration provides effective management of the City's CDBG Program; including compliance and expenditure of CDBG funding; preparation of documents; correspondence and funding agreements. Assistance is provided to the subrecipients in various area such as budget, regulatory guidelines, bid creation and bid execution.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Approximately 500 low to moderate income residents in the City of Alliance will benefit from the proposed activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	504 E. Main St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Planned activities will include but are not limited to: efficiently and effectively administering the CDBG program for the City of Alliance through the Department of Planning & Development, oversight of the City's single family housing rehabilitation and repair program, administration of the City's demolition program, the completion of the Analysis of Impediments for Fair Housing, The Annual Action Plan, Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report, oversight of new construction projects, to develop and study commission reports, advising sub-recipients and the community on the use of CDBG and HOME funds, assisting in enforcement, testing, outreach, education, other activities determined to be needed and to eliminate disparate impacts from poverty. The staff includes the Director of Planning & Development, Code Enforcement Administrator, Deputy Directors, and the Receptionist.
<b>4</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Demolition Program</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$77,500
	<b>Description</b>	This project will include the demolition of vacant, abandoned or severely damaged structures in residential or commercial areas. Post site demolition activities may include site clean-up and greening or other like activities. The demolitions will have a positive impact on the City as a whole.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The estimated number of low to moderate income families to benefit from this project would be subject to the number of families living or working in the general neighborhood that the demolition/development will occur and where at least 51% of the units are occupied by low to moderate income households.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined by the City Health Commissioner, Chief Building Inspector, Zoning Inspector and Code Enforcement Administrator.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Activities to be undertaken will be to primarily clean up or raze vacant, condemned residential or commercial structures that are deemed unfit for rehabilitation.
<b>5</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Fair Housing</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Homelessness Public Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$8,000
	<b>Description</b>	24 CFR 91.225 and 91.325 require entitlement communities to engage in fair housing by taking the appropriate actions to overcome the effects of identified impediments and to maintain records to document the analysis and the actions taken. It also requires that when funds are awarded in support of entitlement communities, certifications to affirmatively furthering fair housing are encouraged to ensure that recipients receiving funds meet one of the definitions of a fair housing organization. Eligible fair housing cost designed to meet AFFH include making all persons aware of the range of housing options, enforcement education, outreach, avoiding under concentrations of persons with low to moderate incomes, testing, interpretive guide, and other appropriate activities.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Approximately 200 low to moderate income families will benefit from the proposed activities.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The location will be Citywide but focus on all four (4) target areas.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	In accordance with 24 CFR 570-201 (e), activities may include but not limited to making persons aware of the range of housing options, enforcement, testing, outreach, education, other activities determined to be needed, working to eliminate disparate impacts from poverty, Analysis of Impediments to Fair housing, and administration for the City of Alliance's Fair Housing Program services.
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Historic Preservation</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$500
	<b>Description</b>	This project will fund memberships for Heritage Ohio and other memberships regarding historic preservation.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The allocation of funds for this proposed activity is used for membership fees for Heritage Ohio and any other membership regarding historic preservation of the community. There is no estimated number of families that will benefit from the proposed activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	504 E. Main St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Printing of materials for use in public education outreach and display. Historic Commission members and City staff members receive training from the Ohio Historic Preservation Office.
<b>7</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Housing Rehabilitation</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$150,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project allows for the rehabilitation, repair and upgrading to meet City code of existing single family, owner occupied, low to moderate households within the City of Alliance. This project also allows for emergency repairs to residents who meet the same qualifications of the program.

	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The allocation would allow for four (4) full rehabilitations to low to moderate income, single family, owner-occupied residents or ten (10) emergency rehabilitations, or a combination of both depending on the qualified applicant's needs.
	<b>Location Description</b>	To be determined within low to moderate target and census tract areas within the City of Alliance.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	To increase decent, affordable, and sustainable housing within the City of Alliance. Houses are selected within the City limits, then filtered for household income, debt to income ratios and then presented to the Committee before closing. Units are selected for elective rehabilitation for low to moderate homeowners who meet the federal housing guidelines determined by the City of Alliance.
8	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Alliance Community Pantry</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$9,000
	<b>Description</b>	The north end of Alliance is a food desert, with no full-service grocery stores within at least two miles. The lack of good public transportation adds to the inability of many families to get the food needed. The Pantry assists low to moderate income families by supplementing monthly food purchases.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number is well over 500 low to moderate individuals that will be assisted through the proposed activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	215 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The Pantry will use the funds to purchase items from sources in addition to Food Banks. This would include ground beef from local suppliers and personal care products. The Pantry helps households who are experiencing difficulties buying food due to increasing costs.

<b>9</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>ECEA (SPARK)</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$11,000
	<b>Description</b>	In alignment with the HUD and CDBG priorities, ECEA addresses the needs of low to moderate income persons within the Alliance community by providing needed resources and quality services that promote the healthy early development and learning of young children.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The estimated number of low to moderate income families that will benefit from the proposed activities is over five hundred (500).
	<b>Location Description</b>	285 W. Oxford St., Alliance, Ohio 44601 Servicing families in sections 7102, 7104, 7105 and 7108 census tracts.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The SPARK program pairs each participating child (3-5 years of age) and a family member with a trained parent partner. The parent partner works directly with the child and their family. The child is screened cognitively, medically, and socially to identify any development delays. A developmental learning plan is then developed based on the individual needs of the child. Parents are supported as they work with the parent partner to implement learning plans. The parents meet with the parent partners during each home visit. The child and parents receive a learning kit containing books, materials, and activities to continue the learning beyond the monthly home visits. This ongoing intervention is a critical component to positively impact the lives of children of low to moderate income families.
<b>10</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Stark County Mental Health</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Reduce Homelessness and At-Risk Homelessness

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Homelessness
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$7,000
	<b>Description</b>	The Homeless Navigation Hotline's Centralized Intake and Coordinated Assessment significantly benefits low to moderate income individuals in the City of Alliance. The allocated funds will be used to pay the salary of a homeless navigation specialist. This position is responsible for gathering data from telephone callers who are homeless or precariously housed, providing referrals, service information and working with area agencies to provide shelter.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number of extremely low, very low- or low-income households that will benefit from the proposed activities is between 200 and 300.
	<b>Location Description</b>	121 Cleveland Ave. SW, Canton, Ohio 44702
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Specialists gather demographic, situational and financial data from individuals and families who need shelter or other assistance located within the City of Alliance. Specialists complete diversion tools and refer callers to community/mainstream resources as appropriate; work to open records and cases in the HMIS and meet federal requirements for data needs; work with bed inventory to refer persons to shelters based on available beds, households and shelter requirements; assist shelters with data entry needs including programs and services, training and troubleshooting access difficulties; and provide customer service support to shelters, other area agencies, county and federal entities.
<b>11</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>YWCA Navigators</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project provides a safe, productive, supervised environment for peak hours for at-risk behaviors for middle-aged students.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project will impact low to moderate youth living in the City of Alliance. Students from any area may enroll, but the majority of those assisted will reside primarily in target area number 1 & 2 with an approximate number of 400 - 500 individuals.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Alliance High School - 400 Glamorgan St., Alliance, Ohio 44601 Alliance Family YMCA - 205 S. Union Ave., Alliance, Ohio 44601 Rodman Public Library - 215 E. Broadway Ave., Alliance, Ohio 44601 YWCA Alliance - 239 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will impact the health and safety of children of the Alliance community. There is often a supervision gap for youth between the hours of 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. The program works to eliminate participation barriers during peak hours for youth with at-risk behavior, which include crime and victimization. Students transition seamlessly from the school day to after school, eliminating transportation costs, hunger, and anxiety issues into a supervised productive, nurturing and safe environment.
<b>12</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>YWCA Employment Assistance</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$6,822
	<b>Description</b>	This project assists low to moderate income individuals with the struggles that come between working and not being able to have the necessities to get to a place of employment, clothes needed for work, required background checks, fuel and items of the like.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Less than 100 individuals of low to moderate income are expected to benefit from the proposed activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	YWCA of Alliance - 239 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The YWCA seeks funds to continue and expand efforts to assist low to moderate income women in Alliance to secure and/or sustain employment through the program by providing assistance that helps to eliminate barriers to work including transportation via gas cards or bus passes, appropriate job clothing and footwear, basic personal care items, work related credentialing, licensing, background check fees or tools. Women enrolled in this program increase their ability to find sustainable work, expand the available work force, increase the safety and health needs of the working families in the City and move towards a self-sufficient life.
<b>13</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>FEMI - Youth/Infant Supplies</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$5,000
	<b>Description</b>	To reduce infant mortality rates in the Community and ensure parents/guardians of children from infant to teenager have a safe place to receive education, social and educational services which add value to their lives.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number of individual and families is between 300-400.
	<b>Location Description</b>	425 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	To purchase supplies, materials, incentives, childcare and food/meals for infant mortality classes and youth outreach. The program is designed to create free opportunities for youth to have a safe place to come and receive mentoring.
<b>14</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Emergency Board Up</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing

	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$3,000
	<b>Description</b>	Emergency board ups of doors, windows, and other access points of vacant, abandoned structures in low to moderate income areas for the health and safety of the public.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number of individual and families is 100.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Target Areas 1-4 and Citywide
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Board up of vacant, condemned structures.
15	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Beacon Charitable Pharmacy</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$10,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project will provide access to pharmacy services to the low to moderate income Alliance residents by decreasing the decisions of having to pay rent, utilities or other life necessities or choosing to purchase vital medications, skipping doses, or cutting pills in half.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	Between 100-200 are estimated to benefit from the proposed activity.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The project will serve all areas of Alliance focusing on the four target areas.

	<b>Planned Activities</b>	This project will provide access to pharmacy services to the low to moderate income Alliance residents by decreasing the decisions of having to pay rent, utilities or other life necessities or choosing to purchase vital medications, skipping doses, or cutting pills in half.
<b>16</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>StarkFresh</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$14,000
	<b>Description</b>	The market consists of a retrofitted transit bus supplied with locally sourced fresh produce from small farmers as well as grocery staples like dairy, eggs, grains and more. The bus makes stops at various community partner locations in the City weekly, where patrons can enter the bus and purchase items.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The project is expected to serve more than 500 individuals.
	<b>Location Description</b>	The potential locations for the Mobile Grocery are 925 Nantucket Circle, 125 E. Simpson St., 200 E. State St., 425 E. Market St., 449 E. Main St., and 1401 S. Arch Ave.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The market consists of a retrofitted transit bus supplied with locally sourced fresh produce from small farmers as well as grocery staples like dairy, eggs, grains and more. The bus makes stops at various community partner locations in the City weekly, where patrons can enter the bus and purchase items.
<b>17</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Tri-County Jobs for Ohio's Graduates</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4 Citywide
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Provide Needed Public Services

	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development -Public Services
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$5,000
	<b>Description</b>	The activity provides academic intervention and career pathway programming for youth ages 14-24, with multiple barriers to success. JOG helps youths at risk of dropping out of high school, and those who have already done so, complete their education and successfully transition to employment at a livable wage or post-secondary job training.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The approximate number of individuals/families that will benefit is less than 100.
	<b>Location Description</b>	400 Glamorgan St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The activity provides academic intervention and career pathway programming for youth ages 14-24, with multiple barriers to success. JOG helps youths at risk of dropping out of high school, and those who have already done so, complete their education and successfully transition to employment at a livable wage or post-secondary job training.
<b>18</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Hammer &amp; Nails</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Persons with Special Needs
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$24,900
	<b>Description</b>	The pandemic increased the need to assist vulnerable populations, especially the elderly, disabled, and low to moderate income community members. The funding will address code violations and remediate efforts for residents in the target areas.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025

	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project will serve less than 100 individuals/families in the Alliance community.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Various locations within the target areas.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Hammer & Nails will prioritize the preservation of the current housing stock to eliminate blight caused by code violations and improve the living conditions of low-income homeowners in the City's target areas. The other goals will be to provide upkeep through routine maintenance, repair safety issues, and any health repairs such as lead paint, to improve the quality of life in the City of Alliance.
<b>19</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>YWCA Exterior Preservation</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Revitalize Residential Neighborhoods Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$24,000
	<b>Description</b>	This project is part of a building renovation plan to help preserve resources for the YWCA Alliance. The funding will replace 3 large exterior glass block windows, and repair masonry and carpentry.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project will serve less than 100 individuals/families in the Alliance community.
	<b>Location Description</b>	239 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The replacement of windows and repairs to the exterior structure will provide an improved living and activity environment, and conserve energy and the YWCA's limited resources while adding to the building's safety and security.
<b>20</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Habitat for Humanity 2024 - House #13</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4

	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Improve, Maintain, and Expand Affordable Housing
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Affordable Housing
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$40,000
	<b>Description</b>	The funding for this project will assist with the construction of new housing for a low to moderate income family.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	This project will serve 1 family in the Alliance community.
	<b>Location Description</b>	Parcels on Morgan Ave. & Grant St.
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	Construction of a new home will provide affordable housing for a low to moderate income family.
21	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>FEMI - Safety Repairs</b>
	<b>Target Area</b>	Target Areas 1 through 4
	<b>Goals Supported</b>	Increase Economic Opportunities
	<b>Needs Addressed</b>	Non-Housing Community Development
	<b>Funding</b>	CDBG: \$2,750
	<b>Description</b>	The project will entail repairing and replacing the handicap entrance at the rear of the building which is the primary entrance. This change will make access easier for those in wheelchairs or other disabilities that may impede or make it difficult for them to walk on the surface which is currently a tripping hazard.
	<b>Target Date</b>	6/30/2025
	<b>Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities</b>	The project will assist approximately 500 people.
	<b>Location Description</b>	425 E. Market St., Alliance, Ohio 44601
	<b>Planned Activities</b>	The project will repair and replace the cement at the primary handicap entrance at the rear of the building.

## AP-50 Geographic Distribution - 91.420, 91.220(f)

### Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

CDBG sub-recipient agencies in Alliance must provide benefits to residents of at least one of the four designated Target Areas, which represent a significant amount of the City's low to moderate income levels and hardest hit commercial and residential units. In addition, a majority of the City's minority and its lowest income households are clustered in the Target Areas. Applications from sub-recipients are scored on a diversity of measures and assigned numerical values. If the project is not located in one of the Target Areas, it receives a zero in the geographic location category. Some of the block groups in these Target Areas exceed 80% percent low to moderate income levels. The Targeted Areas are:

- **Target Area Number 1** is bounded on the north by East Broadway, on the south by South Street, on the west by South Union and on the east by Mahoning Avenue. Target Area Number 1 is an approximately 73% low to moderate income area. This Target Area is in Census Tracts 7104 and 7105. Projects in this area receive 20 points.
- **Target Area Number 2** is bounded on the north by a rail line, on the south by East Broadway, on the west by East Union and on the east by Mahoning Avenue. Target Area Number 2, comprising the City's historic downtown, is an approximately 65% low to moderate income area. This Target Area is in Census Tracts 7104 and 7105. Projects in this area receive 15 points.
- **Target Area Number 3** is bounded on the north by Vine Street and the City border, on the south by a rail line, on the west by North Union Avenue and on the east by Mahoning Avenue. Target Area Number 3 is an approximately 86% low to moderate income area. This Target Area is in Census Tract 7102. Projects in this area receive 10 points.
- **Target Area Number 4** is bounded on the north by West Vine Street, on the south by West Main Street, on the west by Klinger Avenue and Lexington Township and on the east by North Union Avenue. Target Area Number 4 is an approximately 46% low to moderate income area. This Target Area is Census Tracts 7102 and 7103. Projects in this area receive 5 points.

### Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
Target Areas 1 through 4	80
Citywide	20

Table 21 - Geographic Distribution

### Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

While most of the sub-recipients receiving funding do not allocate service by identifying low to moderate income areas, most of their clients tend to reside in these targeted areas. Therefore, the City of Alliance has developed priority levels based on these areas for the allocation of CDBG funds. The

rationale for the creation of the boundaries was based on the percentage of low/moderate income individuals in each area, the age and condition of housing structures and the age and condition of the public infrastructure. Recipients of CDBG funds should provide benefits to residents of at least one of the four Target Areas in the City of Alliance. Applications from sub-recipients are scored on a diversity of measures and assigned numerical values. The City of Alliance would estimate that approximately 80% percent of CDBG funds will be dedicated to target areas. The remaining balance, but not more than the 20% of the cap, will be used for administrative purposes. In an effort to build viable neighborhoods, the Department of Planning and Development will review and coordinate all City plans for street improvements with funding for housing rehabilitation within targeted areas.

### **Discussion**

The City would estimate that approximately 80% of the CDBG funding will be dedicated to the target areas with 20% used for administrative purposes. In FY-2024, the City will continue its efforts to work closely with the sub-recipients and Stark County GIS mapping center to create templates for tracking where CDBG monies are spent.

Included in this Plan is a Target Area Map and a Census Tract Map, a list of the City's CDBG sub-recipients and the Target Areas their projects will provide benefit to.

## **AP-85 Other Actions - 91.420, 91.220(k)**

### **Introduction**

Looking forward to FY-2024 and beyond, the City acknowledges the difficulties that lie ahead as we face a consistent decrease in federal funding levels. Despite the obstacle, Alliance has several important public and private initiatives which are committed to addressing the community needs. Collaboration with nonprofit and private organizations within the priority Target Areas and coordinated individually by their sponsoring organization and through an informal city-wide network of organizations, foundations, non-profits, educational institutions, businesses, and governments.

The City of Alliance is a financial supporter of the INCUBOX Program. INCUBOX helps companies in the region grow from concept, to start-up, to early stage, to full on market expansion. They provide advice and connections to resources, local and regional, that connect students and community-based entrepreneurs to the real-world environment. The Director of Planning and Development and the Mayor attend meetings on a regular basis. This program is not funded by CDBG. INCUBOX accommodates both physical and virtual companies of any type including those that have no tech, low tech, and high tech. The City of Alliance coordinates with the Northeast Four County Planning Organization (NEFCO) in the creation of its Cooperative Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) which is submitted annually to the Economic Development Administration. The CEDS committee is comprised of private industry representatives, foundations, and public agencies (including SCRPC), working together to identify economic goals and priorities for this multi-county region, including scoring or projects to reflect those priorities. The Director of Planning & Development is a part of this committee and meetings.

### **Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs**

The City of Alliance will use CDBG funding to support the Early Childhood Education Alliance (ECEA) key program the “Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids” or (SPARK) Alliance project. The program teaches parents about the developmental and learning needs of young children. It also promotes a positive relationship between child, family, parent, and the schools. SPARK is a holistic approach to education for children ages 3-5 and is a critical key to the overall development of Alliance’s youngest citizens in the effort of breaking the cycle of poverty.

The YWCA Alliance is awarded funding for the Navigators after School project. This project provides a safe and productive environment that works to promote academic and social enrichment opportunities for at risk youth. The program operated by Synergy Alliance operates during peak hours for youth at-risk behavior to help eliminate youth crime, vandalism, and victimization. Family nights and enrichment activities are open to students, parents, and teachers.

The YWCA Alliance is also awarded funding for Employment Assistance. This program assists low to moderate income women in Alliance to secure and or sustain employment through the employment

assistance program. The program helps to eliminate small barriers to work including transportation (gasoline cards or bus passes); appropriate job clothing and footwear; basic personal care; assistance with work-related credentialing, licensing, and background check fees.

Funds will continue to be made for the educational services project operated by the Alliance Domestic Violence Shelter. This is an educational program for the clients of the shelter and the community. It focuses on basic day to day education such as hygiene, financial management and domestic violence education.

The Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County organization is made up of both public and private housing and social service agencies. The City's involvement with this organization will continue to enhance the overall coordination between the City and other agencies working in the local area.

### **Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing**

The effort to maintain quality affordable housing within the City continues to be a high priority for both our planning and code departments. Quality affordable housing units will continue to be rehabilitated by the City's CDBG and HOME funded housing rehabilitation programs in collaboration between the City of Alliance and the Stark County Regional Planning Commission and our sub-recipients.

### **Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards**

All federally funded projects are required to be completed in a lead-safe manner, which include construction and home-owner housing rehab. Every housing rehab application requires the home to be evaluated for lead, and all work is required to be completed by City licensed contractors. Through the Housing Rehab program, each applicant is provided with an EPA brochure on lead hazards in the home and the contracted housing counselor explains the dangers as well.

- **Education and Training:** Education and training is the primary focus of the City's strategy. The strategy will incorporate the activities of program design, funding, and improved regulatory dialogue. The City will also continue to enforce the BOCA Code relating to nuisances to the extent permitted by Ohio law.
- **Program Design:** In designing and operating its Federally assisted programs, the City will follow regulatory requirements and will try to find ways to reduce the costs of LBP hazard reduction requirements.
- **Funding:** In FY-2016, the City set up a program that added lead abatement to its Owner-Occupied Housing Rehab Program. To date, the City has completed lead abatements through its full rehab program. During FY-2024, the City will continue to seek public and private partners to increase the amount of funding for lead abatements. In addition, the City will investigate pursuing additional Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control grants.
- **Improve Regulatory Dialogue:** The City will continue to encourage a dialogue between

appropriate state and federal officials to minimize any conflicts between state and federal laws pertaining to the identification or treatment of LBP hazards.

### **Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families**

The City of Alliance has an informal plan from FY-2023 to continue into FY-2024 for poverty reduction. The City's strategy is a collaborative model which creates opportunities to access education, training, and economic development services, so that people living in poverty can obtain sustaining employment. The strategy identifies four focus areas:

1) Early Childhood Education; 2) Youth Education and Intervention Programs; 3) Adult Workforce Training Support and Development, and Employment Assistance; 4) Neighborhood Revitalization and Support.

Together, these focus areas represent a comprehensive approach to poverty reduction that links housing, education, workforce development, transportation, and health. The City of Alliance provides funding for a multitude of public service activities and neighborhood development projects targeted to reduce the barriers to low to moderate income families. The City's Economic Development Strategy contains four strategic objectives: Economic Base Growth, Middle-Income Jobs, Increase Neighborhood Businesses, Improve Training and Job Readiness of Area Residents. The ability to achieve education and skilled training allows individuals the opportunity to gain access to improve economic opportunities for themselves. The result provides the potential for reducing the number of families that rely on public service organizations for basic needs and requirements.

### **Actions planned to develop institutional structure**

The City is shifting from an application-driven process to a goal-driven, outcome-oriented process based on need and best practice. In addition, the staff of the Alliance Department of Planning and Development will conduct an ongoing examination of policies and other issues to enhance and improve the delivery of services in the community. The City of Alliance hopes to develop improvements that will be long range in scope yet preserve the quality of service already in place. The Strategic Action plan for FY-2024 that the City will focus on includes the following:

- Program development, directing investment, influencing outcomes, leveraging and geographic targeting, and increasing administrative efficiencies.

As an active participant in the Stark County HOME Consortium, the Cities of Alliance and Massillon, along with Stark County, work to create a successful county-wide community development plan. Additionally, with the increased participation with the Homeless Continuum of Care of Stark County (HCCSC) the City can benefit from the variety of expertise of board and community members who target the addressed gaps and needs within the surrounding area. The ever-adapting Homeless Hotline has

also become a great tool for the City with the newest expansion to include an assessment tool to assist in determining which service needs are required by each client so a more specialized referral and treatment plan can be delivered in a timely manner. As the HCCSC continues to evolve and increase its services, the City of Alliance anticipates increasing the ability to service the local community by reducing the number of the City's homeless population.

### **Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies**

The City of Alliance will continue to contract with the Stark County Regional Planning Commission to administer the Housing Rehab program for single family, owner-occupied, and income qualified residents. In addition, the City of Alliance will be providing funding to various non-housing community development needs. It is the view of the City of Alliance Department of Planning & Development that by improving neighborhoods, assisting low-income residents, increasing the supply of affordable safe housing, and rehabilitating residential properties the City's housing can become an engine for community development. The City will use funds for building demolition in low to moderate income tracts that have been condemned by the Alliance Health Department. Demolition of these properties will improve the appearance of the neighborhoods and address the health and safety issues associated with them. The Alliance City Health Department has a condemnation list of houses and commercial buildings across the City that are set for demo. CDBG funds will be expended to demolish as many properties on that list as funding will allow.

Ongoing interaction takes place between Alliance and Stark County. As members of the HOME consortium, SCRPC is under contract and therefore continues discussions and sends updates via e-mail regarding the programs and projects that are approved.

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## **Discussion**

Developers, owners, and grantees must market housing opportunities to all persons in the housing market, including the minority and limited English-speaking populations. All marketing efforts must be documented with sufficient records maintained by the issuer. The use of the Fair Housing logo or phrase “Equal Housing Opportunity” must be included on all signage and marketing documents pertaining to rental and housing opportunities.

Where there are five (5) or more units; developers, owners and grantees must adhere to Affirmative Marketing and Fair Housing practices in all marketing endeavors, eligibility determinations and other transactions. Failure to comply with the Affirmative Marketing Policy may result in the denial or dismissal of allocated CDBG funding.

In summary, the most significant barrier to a housing choice is affordability. In addressing this barrier, the City plans to continue its various housing programs as outlined in this document, as well as supporting the efforts of others to aid in the retention of the current housing stock and the development of new affordable housing.

A second impediment is the continuing lack of knowledge of Fair Housing Laws, especially as they relate to the protected classes of handicapped and familial status. The City plans to continue our efforts to educate property owners, tenants, and the greater community at large by focusing our efforts on families with children and/or handicapped family members. The City of Alliance will continue to explore new venues and methods to promote education of and access to homeownership while stressing the importance of property stewardship as a tool for economic development and neighborhood stabilization.

Finally, the City of Alliance will continue to encourage a dialogue between appropriate state and federal officials to minimize any conflicts between state and federal laws, rules, regulations, or guidelines, and to promote education and training of staff to be familiar with these programs and guidelines.

## Program Specific Requirements

### AP-90 Program Specific Requirements - 91.420, 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

#### Introduction

Recipients of the Housing Rehab Program receive initial funding as a grant with the terms of residing in their home for a specified period of time. If the homeowner chooses to transfer or sell the home, they are liable to pay back the money that was granted for the full rehab. The City is also able to receive monies back if the owner of a property pays back the monies that were assessed to their taxes for demolition to the structure that was on the property. Currently, there are no properties or homeowners that have been required to pay back any of the block grant funding.

#### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

##### Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
<b>Total Program Income:</b>	<b>0</b>

#### Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	80.00%

## **Discussion**

The City of Alliance uses a one-year period to determine overall benefits of CDBG funds to persons of low to moderate income (LMI). During FY-2024, approximately 80% of CDBG funding will benefit this population.

To update our decision-making process, a comprehensive review of the following areas should be concluded over FY-2024:

- Identification of fair housing concerns and problems through the creation of the updated Analysis of Impediments.
- Review of demographic data and income characteristics during program monitoring periods.
- Identification of Impediments to Housing Choice; and
- Review of existing programs, services, and activities.